Height

A step outside of the sun Collapses yellow into blue into black Tumbling spirals of bruised breaths and a snake escaping my throat Weighted and weightless, glancing off the trees that are the branch in my eye I blink into the dewy grass

A breeze, which is not a breeze so much as a creaking ship, brushing The trees and the roots and the dirt, my ear to a mound and then A bright clear mountain

Weight

Under the leaf of an elm, apple seeds sprout on my eyelashes The rasped sky blurs the patchy sounds of a reed, trilling somewhere some----There under my skin crawls a glass-eyed trumpeter Looking for what is past and what is buried deeper still I have been somehow to this familiar place before A crooked dancer kicking up the crackling flames And I have made my way back again I think I know how, how it has been lost to me again and again. Laughing at the envious ants I see that here have been hidden away all things To keep me from The face next to me To keep me from The living at the bottom of the stream The back breaks in five places and out of the cracks A watery cascade That is carried along the rantings of a snail A protest against the ragged landscape And a petal sails by with a dusty sigh Where does the land begin?

REM

A bottle of absinthe on a hill in the woods,

[simulating dreams. There is something unseen. A wall that is not a wall but a ribbon rending one air from the second. Watch! A bear hibernates in a telescope Don't sleep when the wind brings the silence Pluck out your bubbling heart Sew the heartbeat into a smile and I wish I were and there I am In the hair between the seconds, the train tracks spiral into a Dissonant arpeggios One restless, picks its way out Another melts into the face of stone, Another is serenaded by mice, which is a funeral dirge, Another, picketing to start a riot, And another, voiceless, which is what happens to the dead. Enemies. When the light comes, when the light comes, when the light comes! When the light comes, I lay in the pond Looking through the mud Soaking through the earth Grabbing the floating insects Burying the rest Laughing through my nostrils Dancing the waltz, tango, foxtrot Glancing off the pebbles Nothing but old eyes