

Morning Dove

(I)

Wings open
Into the storm
Thrown by sea and spray,
My dove

Lightning tracing mazes
Within the turning fray

Tiny heart throbbing
Veins and arteries
Guide her
Through the blinding gray

(II)

Maelstrom tearing sky
Sheets of shattered glass
Shards now explode
To glitter downy feathers

Where is the shore?
Where is the morning?

As depths swirl below
Watery jaws splay, tongue-traced

Calculations of a vengeful sea
Shadowy machinations

Her flights and dives
Mirror patterns
Of sharks
Whose drive electrifies

With solitary drops
Of blood thus stripped away

(III)

Eyes closed, she reaches out
Mind a shapeless compass

(The only way is forward)

Though her lungs burst
The weight of wind dragging
An animal survives

She longs to line her nest
With dry brown branches
Fragile eggs
Vibrant spring

Where is the shore?
Where is the morning?

(IV)

Exhaustion taking hold
She falls
From glorious, dizzy height

Awakened by thunder
That echoes
To the core of Life

Evergreens erupt at distance
Bent and bowing low
Somewhere her mate awaits
Bedazzled by wet cold

Is his call embedded
Within the aching roar?
Above the boulders lain
Against the stony shore
Amid the thudding lurch of waves?

Zig zagging as her subtle
Shape becomes a weaving needle

Through the blackened vale
Above the sprawling coastal meadow

Where the moon and stars
Burst glorious
Behind discordant walls of sound

She glides
On threads of imperceptible sheen
Notes across
The body of a trembling harp

Where is the morning?

Can these waiving tones call
The yellow light of day
From slumber?

Turn the earth at greater speed?

Awaken! Awaken!
Entomb the coo of owls
And cry of wolves!

Be gone
The falling tower
Of this night!

Four corners of the world
Unfurl and gleam!

Weightless
The horizon parts its seam
Noiselessly
Spreading through the pines

Turning everything to gold
To orange
To red

(V)

Her wings ignite with light
As though aflame

(All is radiant warmth)

When she comes to rest
On limbs that speak
Her name, my dove

To sleep on shells
Beside the twin heart
Of her love