

Dawn breaks its shell of night  
its yolk pours into the harbor of day  
submerging stars and moon into its  
deepening bright abyss

lovers rapturous consume each other  
feeding with a hunger that will not be  
tamed until somehow all their suffering  
goes away

this never happens

a great lake stretches out its diamond belly  
striped with movement—stretch marks on  
a woman ripe for birth

rapacious wonder flares out from the child  
evaporating in a world that kills the  
grass on which wonder grazes

a woman's dark head of hair is strung with  
sparse strands of gray—  
tinsel rushed onto the tree

earth is carved into a quilt of patches by  
human kind who believe they can possess  
the world in parcels

cows and llamas, never listened to  
both know better

a bird descends carrying a flock of folks on their  
way to the next location for their restlessness

a smile dearly wants to escape from the  
plantation that is a woman's heart  
but her fear is an overseer much too threatened

all this beauty rots on the limb until falling  
into a life more useful

but first, sweet reunion in the soil of things.

On a plane descending into South Bend, Indiana.  
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