

[the night hike]

you & i beneath  
where forest's  
long sunless river wove

(as it should) be-warned  
a voice chanting

enfolded *amoenus*.

within eyelids resound  
the deep. the rich locust.

the breathing. mingle  
with bursts

with prophesying devices  
with coppery loam

as if to revive  
blossom dances

in chance  
ever measureless

shred green & half-fed  
stopped

as though *beneath*  
motion, could run

as round as ever  
the width of the world  
to a crowd.

that moment:

a damp cave of eyes  
*domus* of living stone

a garden of half-intermittent pleasure

some fed oceans blinks  
of wings went round  
to inspect glares of milkweed

saliva'd swift nest cliffs  
glimpses of five iridescent throats

of *dulci mares*.

too deep for eyes  
these seven cave nerves  
of sea water and dome canopy.

burnt bark. mossed.  
wooded hills heard loud waters  
plash neath cavernous moon.

shadow below.  
and up you and i climb  
from chasm to hill.

twas the moon's light  
that ran through

whose reach was finger  
fragments of swift  
feathers

see what human fasteners  
these eyes are  
these ears these antennae

who stop and cry beneath things flung bright?

i would be a fountain and measure my heart burst  
amid chromatic hail from setting sun ...!

such hills enfold  
*measureless* dark wonders.

mountains flash thick  
ocean starlight.

waves reach and flick  
and pulse to hear  
night's coverlet.

breath. bed.

*whose* place?  
because its thwarted ceaseless waters  
fast aground wanting:

longer miles of pine and then a clearing. a crossroad.

you and i stole spark from flint, catching the flame in leaves for  
fire, then feeding the fire with twigs, i took a stick from it and lit  
a round white candle and set it in the soft earth, whose meager light  
smoothed our dark surroundings into a dome to hold our talk.

many have stopped  
a chase with dancing



o forest vault  
if momentarily  
loud and close  
now silent

absence. the green full stop

eyes stop flailing rills stop  
wherein lies stop all stop light stop it seems.