

The gentlest of touches
unburdened by the weight of
unreachable memories
A brightness of knowing
of a question asked and answered of
acceptance
In a moment so brief
that no words could exist
Now I close my eyes
and let the darkness in.

John Caulfield

Familiar Spirit

I hear the tread of my son
the exact weight and pace of my father.
As he draws water into the sink, I hear
those dead hands washing.

Noel Williams

monoku

gull crying the length of melancholy

Marion Clarke

The sequel

Geppetto's ship comes in.
Pinocchio hits puberty.
A fire breaks out.

Dominic Connell

New Love Is

Like blinking
When sneezing
While driving

Jill Kerr

Early March.
White trays on a sunken path.
An echoing sluice.
Children sort pond creatures
from silt.

Peter Courtney



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Low sun hits me from the east

flickering through the bars
of a high-set sharp steel fence:
stroboscopic flash
that blinds and halts me
though my wheels whirl onwards.
For these moments
my brain can process nothing else
only the light.

Nancy Graham

Forget Me Not

Stepping out, I am stilled
by the airy blueness of them
the ringing gladness of them
frail tenderness of them.

Marianne McShane

Awakening

Is that what forgiveness is?
The realisation
That sometimes
There was no other way?

Alison Ross

honey and onions -
oh, that smoothy mouth
feel of God's spell

Ernest P. Santiago

Writing

I return to seek
the flash of kingfisher blue
again and again.

Lucy Beevor

Incessant dry spell –
badger droppings at the lough,
small, insipid brambles.

Peter Courtney

Risen

A bird's nest hangs like a
thorny crown
in a winter -bare gallow tree
The Robin takes flight
with bloodied breast - into
A golden sun- singing
"He is risen"

Thomas Elliott

Simple

The shadow of the mountainous cloud
must mimic the face of the mountain;
simple, the laws of interrelation
that rule things astral and solid.

Adrian Rice

Wet Dog

When you can smell the sea
and sand has added
natural highlights to black fur
and she shakes
from the end of her tail
to the tip of her nose,
there is pleasure
to be found in a wet dog.

Gaynor Kane