

## Three Poems · *W. S. Merwin*

### WAYS

Not to be  
but to be seen  
like a magazine

not to be seen  
but to be  
like a spirit

to travel  
but not to come home  
like money

to come home  
everywhere  
like a star

### AT THE SAME TIME

So maybe in fact there are only  
our contemporaries  
and we learn from them listen to them  
talk only to them  
because there are no others

do the dead listen to us  
out of the past  
after all that they said  
in their dream  
of future generations