

## MIRACLES

### 1. WAKING THE DEAD

A butterfly lights  
upon your lips. What  
you were about to speak  
you forget. The dead  
rise out of the ground on wings  
mistaking your silence  
for the sign, but too late,  
the dead have risen  
weeping with joy  
like moths out of the night  
filling the air with their dust,  
running into the headlights of cars  
crying, "We are saved,  
we are saved!"

### 2. STIGMATA

You hold the stigmata  
in your palms as though  
they are pearls. You  
slip soft gloves over them.  
The gloves' palms bleed.  
You touch the face of a girl.  
A stigma blooms on her forehead,  
the third eye with which  
she sees the face of god.  
You touch a stone.  
It bleeds like a sheep's heart  
tossed out to the dogs  
in the snow. You  
pass your hands through  
the wounds in a mirror,  
cross over to a solitary shore,  
let loose the stigmata  
like birds into an open field.

### 3. WALKING ON WATER

Into the desert  
you trek  
sucking a cactus thorn;  
where your feet touch down  
sand melts into water.  
You walk on until  
like the drowned or meditative  
you drift down into yourself.  
The desert opens,  
a single blue eye.

### 4. CURING THE LAME

You touch the shrivelled leg  
with your trembling, guided hand.  
Paralysis, a stone,  
drops to the ground  
with the faithful weeping in witness.  
You touch the leg of a horse,  
a hunchback beggar.  
You journey to kings and  
are welcomed into the dens of lepers.  
You touch the leg of a table,  
a flute, a needle. The lame  
come dancing toward you  
to be healed.