

ROBERT REHDER

Voyage

The travel poem: can we believe in something
So unstable—

Is there anything else?
How can you write about what you don't know?

New places are the first things re-experienced.
Museums give me the desire to paint

Which is why I don't watch sports on television—
And I get lost in the colors.

We are too busy living to take in our surroundings.
By this rule, I should only write about Iowa City.

Maybe I am.
It has changed so much the familiarity is strange.

When you travel you can't tell
Whether you've changed or not.

There are no rules.
What do you do when home is foreign?

I don't want things to be different,
Only my life.

You never see the doorknob.
There must be more to life than shopping.