

Eyebrows Made of Crows / Samuel Makidemewabe

If you looked hard enough CROWS were there!
in those eyebrows that lived
on his forehead. Thick crow eyebrows, yes,
and when this boy yawned
those crows went UP
then landed back down over his eyes.

When he began to get tired,
to yawn, the crows WOKE UP MORE.

This happened when he laughed hard
too.

One time joking stories were being told,
one after the other. This boy was laughing,
LAUGHING at each one. The crows
were rising and landing ALL THE TIME
on his forehead. The harder the laughing got,
the higher those crows went!
We got worried they would fly away.
So we put maple-pitch on those eyebrow
crows, to keep their feet stuck
home.

Slapped the Water / Samuel Makidemewabe

This girl knew pond noises
well, beaver tail-slapping and the sound
of trees falling into water
because of beavers. You could find
her footprints going down to the pond
and sometimes see her listening IN THE POND
through a reed.

She must have
heard other water noises that way,
but I didn't ask.

I didn't ask her about that, no,
but once I saw her slap the water
with her hand and laugh.
Later, I looked in her teeth