

IN VAST FLIGHTS

REMEMBER TO DESCRIBE WATER (APPARITION / TADPOLES)
PULSATING / REALLY GLIDING
UNDER ICE/WATER [,] UNDER ICE [SILVER]
—Coleridge, *Notebooks*

clouds open and close ceaselessly
at the sound of a fly who probes the light like Mallarmé

we have exchanged places and now I live
within the white and black and deep orange of its keep
regarding myself with the compound eyes of a fly

the invisible on fire

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not one flower survives its own opening

though flowering is endless

like a candle held stuttering in wild, unshielded air

incantatory lost flower

this person and the next

“AFTER THIS I SAW STARLINGS IN VAST FLIGHTS BORNE ALONG
LIKE SMOKE, MIST...EXPANDING, OR CONTRACTING, THINNING OR
CONDENSING, NOW GLIMMERING AND SHIVERING, NOW THICKENING,
DEEPENING, BLACKENING”

in solidarity with living things

a car door slams shut

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For Michael McClure and the inspiration of his work

AUTHOR'S NOTE

“biologically active quantities...” is taken from Stephen M. Meyer’s “The End of the Wild,” *Boston Review*, April 2005.