

1972

Litany

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LITANY

—Naphtali is a hind let loose;
he giveth goodly words.

My breath is sweet and I am regular
I am not the black son of dawn
Or the boy bloodshot and green
Out to rediscover America Christ or Venus
I am not Weingarten Siddhartha
The first mystic to bore the perfect hole
Through the world navel come out
The other side feet first
Reborn an egg a raven or everything

In fact I'm lying under my pillow
No blankets pajama bottoms no pattern
Listening intensely to my potential
Pot-belly rhyme hunger with prayer