Winter 2013

In Vast Flights

Meredith Stricker

Follow this and additional works at: https://ir.uiowa.edu/iowareview

Part of the Creative Writing Commons

Recommended Citation
Available at: https://doi.org/10.17077/0021-065X.7301

This Contents is brought to you for free and open access by Iowa Research Online. It has been accepted for inclusion in The Iowa Review by an authorized administrator of Iowa Research Online. For more information, please contact lib-ir@uiowa.edu.
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

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

For Michael McClure and the inspiration of his work

Author’s Note