

Roadkill

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The possum the cat the dog the squirrel
All at once they rise from the sour pavement
The raccoon coyote the rabbit the skunk
Dragging their skins and visceral bits behind
I see the green fire glowing in their eyes
I smell them coming their whistling howls
I think the mountain knows more than me
Bloody birds darken the sky I'll fly with them
There is a cold water cave inside your gut
Bears go there to sleep their bones crust over
Their long teeth and black claws turn crystal
You have to remember who you used to be
There's a reason the roadside dead have returned
They're telling us a story of the end of the world
Once there was only water light and wind
Once there was no time no space no matter
Once everything there ever was was a wild dot
In the dot I learned the language of worms
What is the meaning of animals when they die
I've eaten at least two of them today
Is it revenge they're tapping on our windows
Climbing the fire escape swarming the roof
A white deer limping on three shredded legs
Its giant head lolls from a snapped neck
My bedroom door my god I know why he's here
His voice my soul telling me come home