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**Fall**

Michael Hicks

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# Fall

Last fall I dreamt of that  
first autumn, in Eden,  
of fig leaves dropping off  
into the Euphrates  
and fruit wrinkling in the grass.  
There, in the field,  
a lone ox shuddered  
beside the serpent's track  
while crows rattled in the air.  
And I heard your voice walking  
in the cold of the day  
like a dark woodwind  
singing to itself  
as if to say,  
Let there be light, but just enough.  
Let the dry land appear, then disappear.  
Let the man and the woman talk  
of seeds and stems,  
of planting and ripening,  
words that disallow forgetting.

—Michael Hicks