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## Two or Three Witnesses

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# Two or Three Witnesses

## *Mary*

So this is what you meant,  
 born again:  
 from the day your name  
 spilled from the angel's  
 tongue like wine  
 until now,  
 one long labor  
 only to bring you  
 naked into this  
 chorus of rainwater  
 then back into  
 the womb of earth.

## *John*

Here in the storm  
 at the Place of the Skull  
 my ears reach to catch  
 your words like fish.  
 For us words  
 used to come more easily:  
 parables and proverbs  
 loaded against  
 the nets of language,  
 the weight breaking them  
 into joyful swimming  
 all the way back to song.

## *A donkey*

Nothing will grow here.  
 The ground is too hard for  
 even the rain to soften.  
 If someone would take  
 this bundle from my back,  
 I would lie down in a meadow  
 or a garden,  
 then get up and go home.

—Michael Hicks