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Biblic Appendix

James D. Bertolino

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JAMES D. BERTOLINO

BIBLIC APPENDIX

I tried to tell my son
God put bumblebees there for the flowers
to explain the trees and not only sting,
but the honesty of poverty hung me on that limb.
I tried to tell my daughter
love is a neutral thing and dove houses filled
with cooing because it's the way of business,
but she knew both sexes meant two.
I whispered to my wife
a prayer aimless and helpless like icicles
as Christ's blood poked streams in a turnip,
but she smiled pink that hopeless didn't grow in spring.
I added sound to feel
as a stoat slyly turned the door
to the strongest of the bulbs,
and I knew all living peas were in a soup
well salted.

JAMES D. BERTOLINO

A SIMPLE THING

A thing a simple
as the*wink*ing*flash
of an airplane at night

Recalls
intermittently
complexities of fright

When the long darkness
is contrasted
with short bright.