

~ Threshold of the Visible ~

*Ah, not to be cut off,  
not through the slightest partition  
shut out from the law of the stars ~  
The inner ~ what is it?  
if not intensified sky,  
hurled through with birds and deep  
with the winds of homecoming ~*

~ Rainer Maria Rilke



Climbing, we were, high on the Bonneville Trail ~  
A blur of haze filling the valley ~



Thinking, as we always do, the limits of bodies unknowable ~

Grass, cloud, stone, spider ~ an illusion of skin between ~

Within and all around, every holy being,  
Every quantum particle of the cosmos ~



We were talking about light, sound and cells stilled ~  
Contrast dimmed, color unsaturated ~



And we were talking about pain, the fear of pain,  
How like rain it enters all ~ how the desire to be close  
To death is inescapable ~

*Clouds drifted across the sun ~*

Easy to think the words, to say them, but here,  
Standing dizzy at the threshold of the visible,  
We felt the spin of the earth and the earth's rotation ~



Here, between haze and clouds, a vast opening of sky,  
Palest blue of blue, washed blue of another world ~

We wanted to believe we heard the unspeakable ~



Wanted to believe the sun another sun, luminous and mute,  
A sphere of white light behind a rippling light stunned veil ~



We were talking about the unconscious, how it might be possible here,  
And in the deepest deep of sleep, to enter the mind of the unnamable ~



Grasshopper, hawk, star, human ~ eyes drinking light, light  
Traveling through time to reach us ~ here, we were not afraid ~

Seeing the future and the past, every body brief and eternal,  
Suffering mute, pain transient ~



Low on the trail, the sky brilliant again, a blaze of blue,  
Light through grass golden ~

And now, again, we felt the limits of our human selves, inside and out,  
The skin skinned alive, the grief of particular bodies ~ and still,

Wanting to believe, we looked at our hands, hoping to see light,  
White light passing through them ~





Images One, Two, Three, Four, Six, Nine by Wendy Thon  
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Interventions and Transformations by Melanie Rae Thon

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