



# Mark Cunningham

## **Vivid Metallic Ground Beetle**

Practically, there is a difference between tofu as meat and tofu is meat, but there is no difference between time as money and time is money. She asked if it was an earwig. I said, no, it's my natural hair. My hypochondria is getting worse. In the past week, I've thought I had a hernia and cataracts, but now I'm not so sure it was my body I was describing.

## **Metallic Wood-boring Beetle**

Leaf eaten into lace: lingerie calls forth the death drive. Not only could philosophy not prevent any of the last two hundred years' genocides, it couldn't stop the Archies' "Sugar, Sugar" from running through my head all last Tuesday. It must really be Spring: the cherry tree is blossoming for the third time.

## **Wrinkled Bark Beetle**

In the late nineteenth century, Oscar Wilde predicted that soon artists would turn not to nature but to other art as the ground and beginning of new art. I'd like to add that I agree. Cows are right to be jealous of human beings: I have a tail on either shoulder that makes it easier to wave flies from my face. The whole point of intelligence is that you can save money.

## **Riffle Beetle**

My note read "an enema bag, a cornucopia, a radish," and there's something I can't read and I have no idea what I meant. Why worry about dreams? I can't make the sun appear on overcast days even when I'm awake and I've had coffee with a shot of espresso. They were talking about hysterical deafness, but a breeze must have been blowing, because I didn't hear everything they said. It's impossible to tell if a line is asleep or awake.

## **Squash Beetle**

In the future, everyone will be unobserved for fifteen minutes.