

# Winter 2011

## Charles Wilkinson

#### Taraxacum Triste

Ι

moon-ticker night, full-faced seedhead white

malady of the wind song matching sigh dispersal

star feathery clocks & the sickness: bald late love

parachutes deleted, lost in the unsoiled vasts Π

the roar
retreats:
old moonmouth spits
planets like
teeth; dentde-lion,
lunacy
of last
grief: a
a stalk
left
in the
hand

#### After the Arrowhead

the toy submarine somewhere in the lake last summer failed a dredged darkness up

boating in the park the wake-fletched water stone-ripple circles target deleted by a shaft

winter-honed trees the bows hidden in them can sail or shoot the quarrels in the form

the arc unstrung harmless in the hand a bolt tipped with intentions behind the back

aims change dissolve & shift sky flowing a shape in a child's book escaped into the world

new weapon filed toxic no sheen of the teardrop hull the conn's hidden now operation under the surface

guided right from the bed underwater cruising day all the white explosions after sail-play's absence

streaked breadth of ocean suspending respiration what rises from below should be charged with depth

### Myodesopsia

a white wall will show what's in you: the watermarks that dissolve & swim upon the page are shadows of the self. The eye-stains sliding

across the screen are various: this wisp, a light grey front, travels at the speed of looking & will not track the wind; the matchless sky's

even light is mottling with germs, hard-edged under the microscope, & in the corner, right on the rim of sight, the one that creeps

away as you turn. This glassy humour in the gel leaves shapes that will not laugh or fix: movement defeats the mind that only tricks the

constant image. Now there are these dark forms, fallen from behind sight & no returning to what is over the shoulder: those first fields

shining without mist, no speck of hovering horror eluding the direct gaze, only the world's first innocent immensity:

the vision that will not revive when a shower of light is a dangerous detachment & there's no sidling past the ruins in the eye.

#### Voices

How will the voices find you?

This one has feathers and sings in the glissando tree.

Last month it swept into sky

and would not weep a sliding music on your shoulder.

The songs are many and various

no matter without the discrete tenor of objects.

The conversations of silk

woven into the chat of water-shimmer on stone:

Light notes from the spinerettes,

the movement is a surface of sounds too quick to catch.

The speech of streams is the glide

and ripple round the river bank, eluding the eye,

Only half heard before it

hides itself in the lapping of lakes, the crash of oceans.

And these tongues up from the earth

that lick the air with flames that die as a score of ash.

The bodies' black notation

is the harmonics of death, a noise lower than white.

You never quite trap a sigh,

the silence so softly requested in the reeds;

Even this thin wind will not

be wrestled to ground, held to be bullied in the grass.

The whiplash from the blue clouds:

the unconducted drum and crack are their own accord.

Recrafting continents at

the edge of frequency informs the waves without you.

The pitch of the new mountains

is the product of the independence of orchestras.

And if the bird forever

granted you its song to soar with these sundry voices

How would they sing together?