

Bert Barry

ASTOUNDING MESSENGER

Because he could not hear
the mocking laughter
nor see the simpering smiles of
damning derision
the brilliant boy
offered – undimmed
his boundless intuitions:
escapes from
the toils
his parents spared him—
--ignorance eschewed
protection providing
a future for hope
and his father rejoiced
laughed with
his predecessor
who also knew
the liberation
his son could bring
denigration – deceit vanquished
benison leaping beyond belief.

LEADING ON – AWAY

The fallen leaves
bleached by
wind – snow
occasional bursts of sunlight
breaking through the winter pall
flow in every direction
so thick
most fear
to venture across them
but the woman
ever impelled by curiosity
who traversed
the nearly endless expanse
came upon
a lake so imposing
no shore was visible
and the frozen waters
cast a sapphire light:
beckoning beacon for the daring.