



Michael Berton

Variation on a Maturing Dream

apricot weird taste tangy sponge
from my wayward sea voyage
buoyancy is not a hindrance but
an ego gratification of released sperm
rising through personality salted waves
tumbling with a thimble full of hubris
dying in the arms of a soldier
lover on the battlefield excess
thirst thriving in the foliage
green aqua auras vibrating by the cuff
trembling two fingers width accordion
stretch yanks hard stomach muscles
cramping silhouette ruins
lots of mind caucasian gauze eyes
tremendous lashes flutter constant
hallucinations hitched on a damp wad
tongue in around gums rewind and weave

E. G. O. (Edging God Out)

staring into
flesh tatooed
with invisible ink
made visual through redundancy

danced by dunces
dueling fingered deuces
with tarts clothed in silk and artifice

scrumptious and burrowed by rickets

regenerative
scalp topsoil
mulch
dead skin clogged pores
acne pustules corns and cysts

arthritic cream
inflammation lamentable
perusal over the surface
of craters and mounds

jostling and jiggling
psychochemical maneuvers
inside the brainscape where maps emotional density
of improvisational shallowness
ambient and mesmerized
by overhanging buffoonery

choral clamoring
for the right
to be left
out of the communal
peace pipe offerings

that is not psychotherapy
claiming rudimentary diversity

potlatch anti-depressant
crushing the universe
in mud huts
and cemeteries

Squealing in the Woodshed at the Far End of the Farm

are the Amish still
getting a bad rap
hip hop bebop
and motown funk
their old ways
is a cat and mouse
cartoon on acid
like free jazz
hallucinates
from the brow
the sweat of
narcotic nipples
found on the lips
of saxophone strongmen
practicing circular breathing

Rambunctious

where do the children play
skip slide hang on bump
into squeal swing on roll
around scream climb up
fall down imagine themselves
as another swallow dirt
yell help cry shout out
annoy poke at throw rocks
spit punch dance kiss kick
the ball hug hold hands
tackle pummel laugh make
faces act silly pass gas run
around knock heads get ants
in their pants eat ice cream
spill milk take a nap dribble
on a pillow hide and seek
wet their pants pick their
nose skin their knees day
dream secrets of youth
into adulthood create
memories for their old age

Sweating Tikal

claustrophobic foliage
announcing howler monkeys
sounding symbolic decay

honor the sweat
stained on stone
and behold King Moon shine

svelte jaguar
pantomimes claws
around talking vines

navigate circumference
hyperbole of the sun
and jungle wingspan

humans flushing toxins
up and down
eternity steps
touch the tops
of trees mugging
blue skies

honor the improvisation
hummingbirds reverb
upon temples and pyramids
a cacophony
in oral architecture