

# BlazeVOX 11

Spring 2011

James Valvis

Poem Composed Entirely with Last Lines in W. S. Merwin Poems

rich with late daylight  
the bird lies still while the light goes on flying  
while I go on seeing that batch of sunlight  
and the light is old again

but then it was night and everything was known  
in the pace of nightfall  
coasting with the lights off  
there is not a sound in the whole night

that was like a mote in a sunbeam  
and pick the bright berries made of that summer  
we listened for picks ticking in the dark  
in the dark in empty houses

and then where did she go  
lost in plain sight  
believing what I do not see  
in the dark without us

from what we cannot hold the stars are made  
leading me carefully up the blind stairs  
thinking to walk in the dark together  
even though the whole world is burning

Poem Composed Entirely with Last Lines in Amanda J. Bradley Poems

Who knows what happens

when we die

lifeless,  
deliberate,

by a forked tongue?

If you must  
whisper aloud,

whisper aloud  
a thorn.

I find that comforting,  
so I have to buck you.

Do cages really rattle  
here beneath the surface,

beneath your feet?

Poem Composed Entirely with Last Lines in Alice Derry Poems

Into the unreachable world,  
invisible as any domestic life.  
Oh hand-in-hand

all the way. But you, my swift one, can  
we talk  
that way?

Bodies in the dark  
and I had you in my arms.  
Talk readies us for silence

shining out on the water--  
but no, not like hands  
against my closed eyes.

I'm lured again into praising death.  
On the other side,  
one still life after another