

Smithereens Press

from Pensato
More Words for Voices

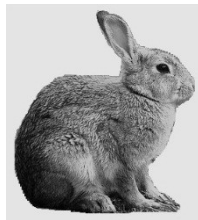
Billy Mills

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More Words for Voices

listen
do not

sing
it is
enough

tattered
leaves

twigs
rather

air
frozen

life
endures

air
again

floating

tree
in the river

formal

steel
& light

when we need
it most

a snatch of air
freezes
on the lip

crisp & almost
sweet

fraught:

night slips
along

a road
outside

arrives

grey it is
& soft a kind
of spring

this day rain
enfolding light
it is

morning
sleep over
this day

blackbird sits
& sings
the spring in

sing it too
through drizzle
& the wind

morning
& rain

a perfect
arc

drive
through light

an arc of light
made over

an arc of water
made air

an arc of morning
made

petals fold
against
each other

held delicate
tension
& weave

a fragile
durability
that holds

persist & sing
the least need
most

an image is
that leads
sleep goes

first then this
who dreams would
keep so

salt in the air
& sand the sea's
proximity
walk to the edge
of all that matters
& see this scent
the turf springs
under & wave

that there might be
purpose
curious notion

everything moves
& is still
moving

walk

the sand
the narrow lane
the grass

to the end
the very
sea

& walk

rain again warm
& steady see
how it is

even light seeps
the earth rises
to meet it

that there may be silence
speak the words
that darkness make it so

night drifts in unattended
& settles
& glows

& sleep once
& dream
easily

& let the light
erase
the edge of things

drift
purposeful &
clear

robin
in a small
bare tree

poised
& alert
& looking

& there is
rain
somehow

sun
somehow

that there are things
& that these things are
as they are
& nothing is implied
other

everything spins
indeterminate
patterns of light
of stuff a world
explicable & strange

snow on the hills
serpentine flow
miles below

Billy Mills was born in Dublin in 1954 and now lives in Limerick. His books include *Genesis and Home* (1985); *On First Looking into Lorine Niedecker* (1986); *Triple Helix* (1987); *Letters from Barcelona* (1990); *Five Easy Pieces* (1997); *Tiny Pieces* (1998); *Logical Fallacies* (2004); *Lares/Manes: Collected Poems* (2009); and *Imaginary Gardens* (2012). *Loop Walks* (2013) has just been released by hardPressed Poetry. He is founder and co-editor of hardPressed Poetry (<http://hardpressedpoetry.blogspot.ie/>), a regular contributor to The Guardian book blog, and blogs at Elliptical Movements (<https://ellipticalmovements.wordpress.com/>).



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