

Lookout

Dand and Deborah went upstairs
to the wedding her mother disappearing
on the way up The stairs got larger
and large as they ascended
and the crowd was becoming
larger and large

as they rounded one curve
a curve with a ballustrade
and a pool and a vista A fat lady
had just been rescued from the
pool she had
a face a perfect non-entity
After a slight difficulty she breathed
not hard but then not deeply not
in any way joyfully still she breathed
and they went on their way

-- Ellen Tiffet

Elmira, New York

The Green Bird

The green bird,
with the eight golden eyes,
sitting still
in the brown, breaking tree
near the lame river,
never speaks
in the dark day
of the sawmill's
overfed children.

Resurrection

to extinguish
the extinction
of gabled houses,
to enter
the wood
of curlicued porches,
to feel
the footsteps of those
now dead.

The Questioner

What are we digging for?
asked a perplexed man.
We have
a large pile of dirt
but no hole.

-- Duane Locke

Tampa, Florida