

FIRST TOOTHACHE

Perry has a toothache.
Won't listen to his dad's
advice wants to handle it
himself discover
over & over the pain.
Examine it.
Know it.
Put it to work
in his favor
if he can.

RITUAL

Can't get past mirrors.
Always stop for a look
far back as I remember.
Lately I'm getting vague
fragments...receding hair
sagging eyelids, crowsfeet
double chinline advancing
dividing face...
a forgotten name at
the tip of my tongue.

-- Phil Weidman

North Highlands CA

safari
rhinoceroses
tramping.
the kings
of beasts
purring.
a small
cross
bird
in charge

caviar
a business
man
in boy's
clothes
eats
caviar
left
there
to see

mary
slew me
with her
axe.
there is
nothing
left on
any street
but
pumpkin
seeds
& lye

somebody's
house
in fancy
brick.
three
flags
flung
out,
a seat
for infants
on the
porch

-- Gloria Kenison

Millis MA