

3-2014

marF2014

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Recommended Citation

Kelly, Robert, "marF2014" (2014). *Robert Kelly Manuscripts*. Paper 187.
http://digitalcommons.bard.edu/rk_manuscripts/187

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**No tax city
over brown river
speaks to poor woman
only 23 twice a mother
no man in sight**

**I am an unwed bride,
a childless mother,
a story told with numerals alone.**

23 March 2014

2.

In spirit land

there is no time

only space

and what it does

to us

the city safe beneath its glittering scales.

23 March 2014

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Lightweight, as a swan
reflected in slow eddy
I am (any I is)
a bird that turns
half under water
half in the sky,
a self is a beast,
some heraldic blending,

my enfield, head
(brain) of a fox
forelegs an eagle's grip
and eagle chest and lion after
and wolf tale aloft,

a self is a composite,
heraldry is always reminding,

we are the mythical beasts,
griffins basilisks manticores.

There is no such single animal as me.

**(All that I learned from a picture
of a swan moving forward
in Jeff Scher's lovely little
homage to springtime *Welcome Back*.)**

24 March 2014

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**Moon and morning star
then color starts
as if it came from *there*
all over again
and we were new.**

**Dawn is a quiet desire.
An obsequious animal
at first, barely rousing
through the trees and then
before you know it
you know it.**

25 March 2014

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**There are so many
and none.**

gematria

**shows the way, every
word adds up to One**

which is the same as Ten.

**How our cruise began
in all these seas
from which these lilies
hurried home.**

Long

lovely quiet equaling None.

25 March 2014

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The roses when they begin to shout
will drown me out. This is the way
I am supposed to be, a *voice*
in ordinary attending on great matters
from the lower register,
a song not
much use to the sun.

25 March 2014

AQUEOUS HUMOUR

**Waiting to specify
begins in the trees
where answers ripen**

***the sea the sea* they cried
on the mountain crest
seeing what they saw
with the part of ocean
that wanders us.**

**In the old books it is said
the whole earth is the Buddha's blue eye—**

See with the earth and really see.

25 March 2014

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**You see a certain thing
you fall unconscious.
As if the whole body is
not strong enough
for what it sees, or is
only what it beholds
and there was nothing there.**

25 March 2014.

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**From palest dawn
the brave light
 comes,
then slow
 the colors
those children of the light.**

26 March 2014

INTERVIEW WITH THE DRAGON

I am many kinds.

You alone?

I all one.

Water and air, like in Chinese?

**I am air when I am in water,
I am water when I am in air.
I am earth when you sleep,
I am fire all the time.**

When you roar, is there meaning?

**There is always meaning
count the lines
in my face, they
match precisely the lines in your palms.
And when I say precisely
I mean the numbers match,
the planets align, the rain falls.**

Do I belong to you or you to me.

As a part to a whole.

Which is part, which is whole.

Yes, only yes.

You confuse me with clarity.

**Next-door, a machine is grinding tree stumps
at the behest of some man or men.**

Or woman?

A machine thinks everyone is a woman.

26 March 2014