

BIRDLAND

1
A bird is
a bird, is
not
the same bird

2
To be, a
bird must be
the bird it is:
sparrow, ortolan
warbler, barn owl,
short-toed eagle,
Egyptian vulture,
tit and wren,
magpie.

3
And as it
is seen, it is;
Evert, shaper
of clay birds says,
people, oh
they think a bird
is the same
on both sides.
But it isn't; look
on this side
the feathers are
softly folded back,
there, see, there's
a dangerous
hollow
place.

4
A bird
crossing
fighter
contrails
vouchsafes
flight
in man/bird
heaven

5

I,
a cedar,
six blackbirds:
the one/many
problem is
nervously re-
solved.

6

A bird
rising; in
the dynamical
correlation
of oak thicket
and cloud, what
was sundered
on the second day
is made
whole.

7

The
scatter
of sparrows
works out
the space
where
they
were.

8

A thrush
sings out, but
it is in a cage, hung
on a tree -- no, not
one, but ten! Oh,
how many birds
will make
a brochette de grives?
And where, hunter,
will
their breast spots
have gone?

9

One
time,
just one,
a bird, the bird,
dives toward me,
stretches full
into the arrow
that lights up
its target,
the idea
of bird
in me.