

The Great Wonderful Forsaken Earth Flower Tyde

i.

go not only to the woodland go by bloom to
the meadow by the stream upon the sandy shore
close your blue eyes to see other places to go

ii.

flowers of Earth stars
in the sky
sun moon your hands

iii.

come every light
to shore shining
Daughter of the Moon

iv.

she stood over
heard
our anonymous thinking

v.

two ravens
black back to black back : pinions sun-gold

vi.

wind intoned
twinkle twinkle of harp strings broken

vii.

when the woods'
greenwood greens
gather flowers there
grace

viii.

your glossary
sedge a copper coin
weasel hare

ix.

shall wander dusked land
gold-eyed tu-whit tu-whoo of owl
a bird of any other kind isn't heard

x.

slow the elm tree's shadow
went across the meadow

xi.

on Earth
go wi'
or woe

xii.

quoth the stolen moontyde

ABOUT THE POEM

“The Great Wonderful Forsaken Earth Flower Tyde” was created from *Pattern Poetry, Part I*, an anthology of poems arranged by Richard Wilson (1926). About the poem and the process of composing it, Jami Macarty writes:

“The Great Wonderful Forsaken Earth Flower Tyde” is made via erasure of words from pages in *Pattern Poetry, Part I*. To construct the poem, I used the number 12 in several ways. First, I decided to make a poem of 12 sections, using 12 pages in the book—but not just any pages. Second, I started on page 12 of the book and then for 12 pages I added 12 to determine the next page from which I would perform erasure. So following page 12, pages 24, 36, 48, 60, 72, 84, 96, 108, 120, 132, and 144 (12 x 12). Third, most sections of the poem contain 12, or its multiples, 24 or 36, syllables. The poem’s last two sections equal 12 syllables together. In some cases, the lines within sections are 12 syllables! The title is 12 syllables! 12!



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