**Slowly, Suddenly**

# Summer afternoon

Ripe for contemplation

The sun moves slowly

To center sky

Stillness.

I remember

The spring time

Picking flowers

Things happen suddenly.

I drift in random circles

On the surface of quiet waters

Beneath clustered branches.

The day can change suddenly

No movement in the tangled leaves

Even birds seek shade today.

We danced through the wild flowers

Suddenly

We are immobile

And grow old.

I shift forward

Undulating slowly

To an old rhythm

Summer’s sleep returns.

Random things bring quick changes

This evening is like

The moment before my birth

A full moon will rise this evening

Soft gray shifts to deep indigo

My whole world spirals backwards

A storm changes my direction.

A scattering of stars

No clouds to hide them

I slip deep into placid dark waters

My body heals in the coldness.

Accidents occur suddenly

Torn in half

I swim to the nether side

Wait silently in darkness

My hands cut through the surface.

As you embrace me

The moon will bathe my body

Winds blow my flesh dry

I am destined to live

In two worlds.

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