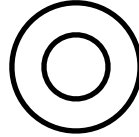


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# The Figure In

For Gerrit Lansing



To figure out

The carpet layers

At such pains to discover

What it is that's so fascinating

Even on hands and knees to get a closer look

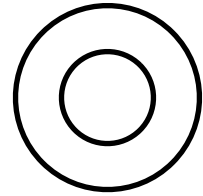
Maybe taste or even hold the design to the ear

Do they work this way intentionally

And is anything in charge

Of the light

Layers



Imagine leaves pressed in a book

Permanently staining pages

Over so that any words

Are interfered with what can never be removed

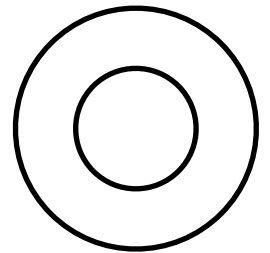
Re-written, or deleted

Only what is captured from the past

Caught up in the present

Display neglect or forgetfulness can hide

Otherwise lays exposed



An optic game

Discovered in childhood

The texture of the old green

Living room rug

Stared at until it moved and came to life

Rising up into the eyes

Certain patterns appeared and isolated grew animate

This was the largess of play between

The fields taking hold

Showing something greater may be done

They work to stimulate, torment, and mystify

By design

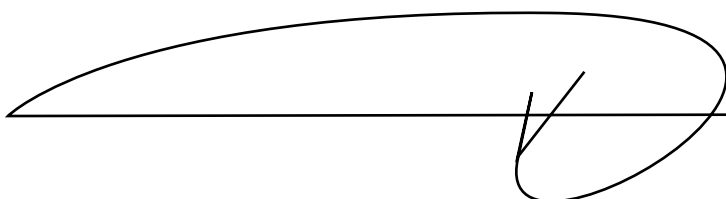
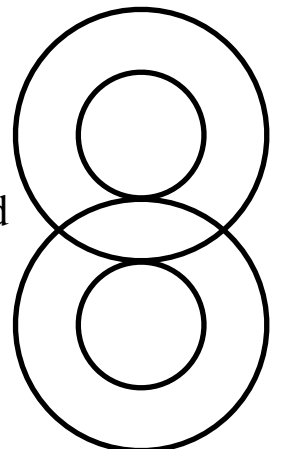
That is amaze (meant for exploration)

In wonder or by hooking one fiber with an extraneous thread

Pulling in more

& Unintentionally unravel

Consciousness fixated on making connections



II

The Ground Book

You showed me  
Death in life  
By verse and flesh  
An unreadable mess at times

Aging

The winds show direction  
Ptolemy understood birds & other animals  
That depend on air movement  
Petals and feathers indicate  
Thermals,

    Invite us to ride  
    Acceptance for the tail, a boost  
        But head-on, a struggle  
    Scattering ashes in an upward spiral  
    An omen carrying seeds for sewing  
        In a single little water droplet  
            Every snowflake's crystalline  
    Array  
        holding one another  
        Across apostate lines  
        (yes, even in symmetry)  
        Spreading out  
        In the welcoming immensity  
        And dispersing, ever expanding  
        Characters beyond time.

Robert Podgurski