

Absence of Phish

~ by Cabe Lindsay

Quietly
they stood by the pond
pondering the absence of phish
poles dangling
without a ripple
the phans were phishing for a song

The phish were missing from the pond
but the crowd of phans remained
phishermen of songs
bandannas and sundresses
grizzlybeards and hempsters
listening to the absence of phish

Phishermen of songs
dancing, hula-hooping
to soundless memories of music
lost in harmonic walkabouts
acoustic daydreams
the phish were missing from the pond

The phans were phishing for a song
casting their lines
hoping for a bassline riff
a bluegrass fiddle
mandolin or banjo
but it was silent in the absence of phish

Phishermen of songs
waiting for the
errant drummer's pattern
or a guitarist to lead them adrift
craving brilliant flaws of music
from the twang of fretbuzz
to the purest voicebreaks
genuine, authentic errors
of perfect imperfection
somehow still
the phishermen were not deterred
by the absence of phish
the phans were phishing for a song

The phish were missing from the pond