

Collected Poems



David M. Bourns

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Farmwatch

O this my watch, my heart's hitch,
The bygone joy that's never healed;
I'm always on my way but never reach
That farm, far hayfield, wandering child.

Hosanna

Hosanna, the eternal ripening—
Summer's slow swelling of kerneled forms,
Their irreversible bearing towards rounding,
Hosanna, the weighing down of arms.

Hosanna, the belly brimming with life—
The straight and narrow ever veering , filling,
The inevitable circling,
Hosanna, the fruit-heavy limbs of love.

Bittersweet

For Nedis

I'm going out to walk the winter woods
At last light, where the bittersweet runs wild,
Along a ramshackle, rail fence, hard by
The far hayfield's demise—come with me.

I know the way through blackberry brambles,
Round a sunken pond, past ancient maples,
To a hidden clearing in the forest's lee,
Only olden lovers reach—come with me.

Lullaby

tree so high
wind so far
ride me, ride me
on a star

love so helpless
full of fright
dance me, dance me
in the light

cloud so soft
rain so long
rock me, rock me
with a song

love so strong
warm and deep
sing me, sing me
till I sleep