

The Waters Of March

Susannah McCorkle

A stick a stone
it's the end of the road, it's the rest of the stump
it's a little alone it's a sliver of glass,
it is life, it's the sun, it is night, it is death,
it's a trap, it's a gun. the oak when it blooms,
a fox in the brush, the knot in the wood,
the song of the thrush. the wood of the wind,
a cliff, a fall, a scratch, a lump,
it is nothing at all. it's the wind blowing free.
it's the end of a slope. it's a beam, it's a void,
it's a hunch, it's a hope. and the riverbank talks.
of the water of march it's the end of the strain,
it's the joy in your heart. the foot, the ground,
the flesh, the bone, the beat of the road,
a slingshot stone. a fish, a flash,
a silvery glow, a fight, a bet,
the range of the bow. the bed of the well,
the end of the line, the dismay in the face,
it's a loss, it's a find. a spear, a spike,
a point, a nail, a drip, a drop,
the end of the tale. a truckload of bricks,
in the soft morning light, the shot of a gun,
in the dead of the night. a mile, a must,
a thrust, a bump. it's a girl, it's a rhyme.
it's the cold, it's the mumps. the plan of the house,
the body in bed, the car that got stuck,
it's the mud, it's the mud. a float, a drift,
a flight, a wing, a hawk, a quail,
the promise of spring. and the riverbanks talks.
of the waters of march. it's the promise of life,
it's the joy in your heart, a snake, a stick,
it is john, it is joe, it's a thorn in your hand,
and a cut on your toe. a point, a grain,
a bee, a bite, a blink, a buzzard,
the sudden stroke of night. a pin, a needle,
a sting, a pain, a snail, a riddle,
a weep, a stain. a pass in the mountains.
a horse, a mule, in the distance the shelves.
rode three shadows of blue. and the riverbank talks

of the promise of life
in your heart, in your heart a stick, a stone,
the end of the load, the rest of the stump,
a lonesome road, a sliver of glass,
a life, the sun, a night, a death,
the end of the run and the riverbank talks
of the waters of March it's the end of all strain
it's the joy in your heart

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