

RANDALL GLOEGE

An Absurd Design

Once upon a time, there arose
from roiling spirals of carbon
the forms of me and you
and of all animated, self-updating things,
the low, the high, the wet, the dry—
shape-shifting jellyfish, sidewise-scooting crabs,
serene coral snakes, hanging sloths,
path-ravaging ants, invisible patient iguanas,
insinuating sand flies, priest-cowled capuchin monkeys,
poised black widows, wobbly swift bears,
syrup-spitting hoppers, sand-pawing bison,
luminous scorpions, light-absorbing ravens,
gilded green beetles, diving foxes
cannibalizing gophers, cliff-bounding goats,
blind moles and taloned eagles.
On and on and on and on,
a multitude to be sensed
in the squeeze, glide and slidder,
the dither, march, creep, zip and dance,
the leap, soft shoe, whirr and gallop,
the creep, flap, jerk, pounce, scurry,
scramble, twitch and crunch
of the concrete.