

21



Scorpion Prize #21

**canyon
replies from the
afterlife**

George Swede

a delay in large leaves

Philip Rowland

**planning his escape
through the I
in the sentence**

Gregory Hopkins

in the garden steel ears for dreams come whistling

Darrell Lindsey

**between seasons
only
reality shows**

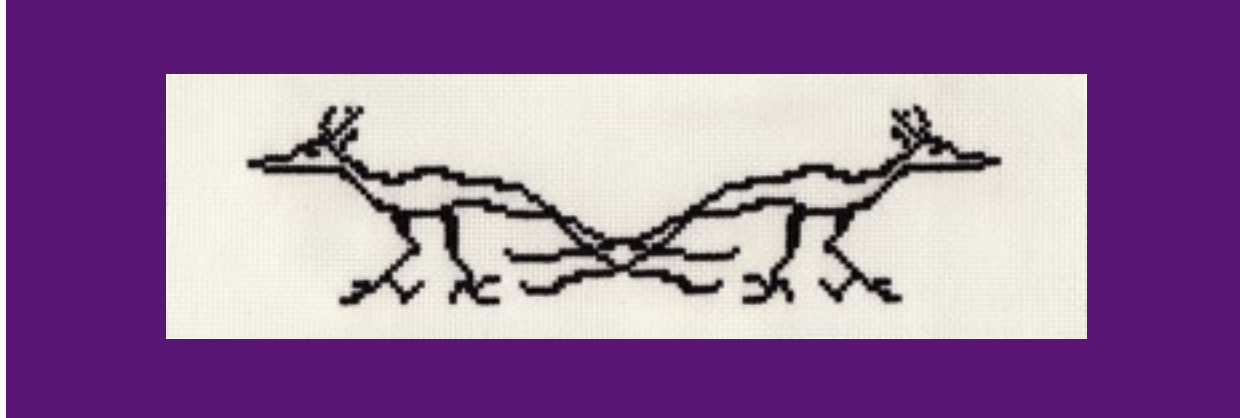
Peter Yovu

I read through all the poems several times, seeing what stuck, what caught my attention, what stayed fresh to interest. As there are really no rules in poetry—despite the occasional chosen mechanical ones of a rigid form and the surface cleverness that supports—my take is purely subjective and does not represent that of Fox News. “canyon / replies from the / afterlife” had the necessary frisson; as did “a delay in large leaves”. “planning his escape / through the I / in the sentence” attracted me, and if the last word had been “sentience” I would have stopped there.

Finally I wavered between “in the garden steel ears for dreams come whistling” and “between seasons / only / reality shows”. The latter had the twists of ambiguity that appeal to me, the natural

and the electronic, the pivot of “only” and the flickering substantive/verb of “shows”: but the former still stands my test of not being quite here and thus testing me that I am. Thank you all.

Tom Raworth



Roadrunner X:3

-October 2010-

<http://www.roadrunnerjournal.net/>