

## **North of Here**

North of here the roads peter out,  
mostly old miners' roads  
dead-ending in the foothills,  
animal trails to springs and seeps,  
every few miles a ranch road  
or housing development artery  
heading toward the nearest town.

The main exception being the one  
between Tombstone and McNeal  
that was my favorite long way home  
before they paved it a few years ago  
to bring prisoners to and from Tucson  
and the new state prison at the old  
Air Corps field by Pirtleville.

North of all that of course, I-10,  
The Pearl Harbor Memorial Highway  
connecting America to itself  
coast to coast for the swift transport  
of troops, supplies, atomic weapons  
and evacuated populations  
if it should ever come to that.