

Honest weight no springs  
natural beauty more than sufficient  
  
gold for its intrinsic luster  
some perceived something or other  
  
so many measures of dust to dust  
so much dead weight  
  
a pound worth these days as much  
as you can get for it

A self beside itself so to speak  
to transcend its origins  
  
lifted by bootstrap maneuver  
to an Archimedean purchase  
  
a tale older than Jeremiah  
ranting against his alter ego  
  
in continual agony  
nostalgia for the lost cause

Coherent consciousness  
identity pure and simple provoked  
  
to high-tension ideations  
by its own images  
  
of being different from itself  
personal narratives imploding  
  
discontinuities rampant  
otherness as identity  
  
identity as difference  
philogyny recapitulating  
  
unlikes and material limits  
as externalities

Things defined not in terms  
  
abstracted from lived experience

projected out from subjective sensations  
into a network of bright ideas

organized in terms of  
copulative interpretation

conception rather than reception  
some versions of analogy,

but like and unlike of the same ilk  
lovers known by the light in their eyes

the surface of objects inserted into  
a universe of formal relations