

# Broken Mirrors

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## DAO OF LAO-TSE

mountain is mountain  
river is river  
sky, sky

mountain rivers  
river skies  
sky mountains

river mountains  
sky rivers  
mountain skies

mountain river sky  
dirt water air  
birth process death

the I is eye  
burning fire  
watching the flow

eye I am  
out of here  
present

## L' IMPRESSION DE DEGAS

to let your son be  
an artist  
one must prick him to death  
and make him  
be a lawyer

through the lies of eyes  
a judicious mind sees  
the necessity  
of colors

the oxymoron of being

a ballerina on tiptoe  
the silken Japanese umbrella  
upon a toothpick  
stands the center

of equilibrium  
the needle of balance  
a constant pricking toward  
the epicenter of making

drawing the ugly woman bathing  
in unforgivably awkward positions  
the wild cat's instinct of pruning  
the necessity of physical  
conditioning

true to itself  
an artist is one  
who never arrives

## EARLY MORNING BIRDS IN FLIGHT

grand children of dinosaurs  
in small groups vociferous

leap into the time  
from invisible branches

defying the gravity the chain the air  
they adrift in geological time

in blue waves

the leaves of memory hide  
their boisterous claims

and now long dead the tree too  
deprives them of their original rights

the landing sites  
they must return to somehow

to brood

archaeopteryx feathers  
the frozen flesh of the bird

captured in the fish-scale jaw  
of the limestone rock

caught in the act  
of evolution

the jump