

The Broken Mirror

In the dawn light
I see my face
in the shards
of a broken mirror



There are few teeth left
to smile with
and my hands shake

Noise begins the day

It beckons from everywhere
to explode

The ravens come
landing on a wire

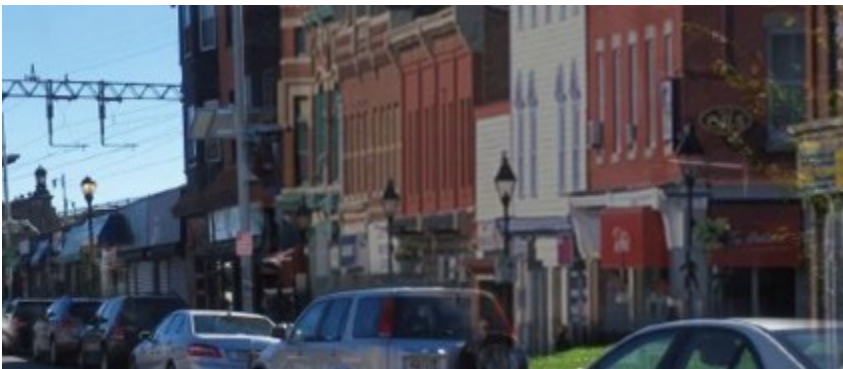
they are furtive
as if
still wavering
between the fragments
of night and day

It is very hot
and dry as a bone

and worrisome

the threat of fire
is everywhere

I wander down
to the lower end of main street
for solace



and the comforting shade
of old brick buildings

“the fire warden’s been here”
the bartender says

I’m reassured.
Bring me
two eggs scrambled
with wheat toast
and a tall beer
Off in the distance

there is the sound
of a freight train

it seems loud
because of the emptiness
of the saloon

The back door is open
and Audrey appears suddenly
across the street

She turns her head
to glance off
as a raven might



I ask her in
but she says no
it's too early
in the day

she's on her way
to a job interview

the bartender
brings my breakfast

when I look up
she's gone

