

**Nature**  
by Dick Brugger

I have a friend  
who understands nature  
holistically. Tells you about the seasons  
soils, forests, streams, animal life,  
all that God has given us, rationally  
relationally, in semi-scientific terms. My mother  
knew nature with Oohs and Ahs  
and Dear God, Richard look at that!

Don't ask me  
the name of that tree, the hybrid of flower  
the composition of rock, the whys  
and wherefores of the tides  
the cause of monumental landslides

I'll tell you though the feel of a gentle wind  
the vastness of the open sea, the pleasure I get  
at looking at California Oaks on golden  
brown hill slopes. My mother's in me.