



1964

with deaf ears

Jim Sadler
Western Michigan University

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with deaf ears

with deaf ears
i hear
someone calling
from a river of blood
to dive in and get all red
like a cardinal,
i can't swim
so i stay on the bank
or in the chair
by the desk
and watch all
the callers calling
from the river
that runs along
beside me
and leaves me behind,
and i think
that staying behind
is not so bad
for i have found
a spot
on the barren bank,
by a tree
that is small,
and i can read a book
or brush my teeth,
but even so
i open my ears
and listen
and think
what it would be like
to be all red
and moving.

Jim Sadler