



Fall 1966

Octaves to Autumn

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Octaves to Autumn

The stubbled fields of roughened tweed
Are last remains of springs bright seed.
Bronze hills beyond unclipped by chance,
in undulating wildgrass dance
to crest against the lowering sky
full crowded with great mounding cloud
in wind-tossed turmoil Payne-grey shroud
that hides the flock but not the cry.

Then suddenly the eager sun
escapes the clouds that eastward run
and brings her vivid power to bear on
maples coiffed in titian hair;
on vine wrapped elms with saffroned heads
and crimson trunks instead of greys.
The birds return; fall flight delay
to sleep in multi-colored beds.

Jean Pataky