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Printemps (Ekphrastic of "Spring" by Cot, 1873)

Matthew M. Campbell
Western Michigan University

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PRINTEMPS (EKPHRASTIC OF "SPRING" BY COT, 1873)

Matthew M. Campbell

To see the confidence with which
Shine cuts through canopy
Before it finds the forest floor
At last!

She lets her arms link loosely
Her breasts against his chest
Wearing little more than morning air
As dropping dew drips between branch and ray
Of gold, a strand of her hair
Falls across his face.

They share themselves silently
Catching a grain of sand
As it falls between glass orbitals
He watches her lips
But they never part
Her eyes speak

Holding his neck
Holding her gaze
They swing without swinging
Sitting on their plank
Refusing to move
Like clock pendulums

With hands gripping their
Grain of sand
They sit still, staring.