

Variations on a Natural Theme

A Loon Year



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Illustrations by Jan Mercuri Grossman

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September Anniversary

ALL sparkle
eider loon waves seaweed
leaves of rosa rugosa
and withered hips

In the distance spray
and the ocean beyond it
yearling gull in the air
brown car on the road
even maybe remaining blackbirds



Ludwig's Day

AMID the sparkling the loon rides and twitches
Amid such sparkling would you not twitch
Even if you did not itch with genius



After Her Birthday

RISING too brilliant for sustained
Encounter the haloed ball
Of the sun lights and polishes
The wet sand of the beach

Off which the shadowy loon
Dives into darkness and comes
Back up swimming away from
The haloed ball of the sun



Smooth Water

AND three loons in fog
And I in my car
This April morning

Three loons and I
In fog this day

