Words for Birds

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Recommended Citation

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Words for Birds

If you know the words for birds
they will sit on the sill
of your prison and sing to you

They are small enough to fly
in and out of the cell
of death words
you endure for their sake

They will take your poems
in their beaks and
scatter them along
the lake shore

Count your zamia rosary
the lake still breathes
so do your poems
so do you

for N.C.