

The Eulogizers

Conversations with Buffalo

He wore his soul like a coat,
inside out,
snatched a hundred others away from the precipice
because he had been there.

He had tamed the beast,
left a wife and kid
dropped over at the gym.

What should I say?

The eulogizers arrived
as he entered the world of truth
with their scripts and suits.

Their words had no lift.

Say something.

Say nothing, Buffalo said.

Descend into the dark,
go alone without a flashlight
sit silently on the floor.

Be cold

let your bones freeze
without heat without light.

Resist the temptation to speak jive.

Make no jokes.

Wait for the story to rise.

How long?

As long as it takes.

In the world of truth, Buffalo said,

you get what you deserve.

Here, in the upside-down world,
you have to stand on your head to make sense.

james stone goodman