

THE SERRATED SOUND OF A LEAF

The meaning of the thistle is
medicinal and irritating

Horridulum – has it done to you

half the pendulum, swung
undone to you

thistles woven bright on the mound

do loom do loom
dune luminous

trout lily, horse nettle –

sneeze wood voluminous

Magnolia breach bray
and magnolia broom

You, swept up go on

 gathering horridulum
in magnolia bay –

trout hazel, witch lily lips
at mosquito meats
the ashy warm

Magnolia doom doom
luminous, a sound

doom doom
luminous, a sound.

POSSUMHAW

We flee
from the sound
of the word
for the woods

to the voice
of a barking tome
In the forest duff

lays a latin name,
broken at the -sium
writhing

above it in the air you hear
no-see-ums singing
cera-topo-goni-dae

It's by sound
we gather

like a wood-
grained tooth

cutting leather
from the tanned
animalias

Trying to match
the bark of the word

to the bark
of the tree.