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## The Canyon

John Peterson

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# The Canyon

by John Peterson

The houses rise  
from the canyon's  
cleft walls  
in acrobatic displays  
of rock and lumber;

they loom  
over the creek  
like sycamores,  
sprawl  
through air  
like oaks,  
grow beside water  
like alders.

The morning glories  
long  
green  
vines  
drink  
from the creek

this canyon, this home.  
a song of praise for this life,  
in my silent fashion,  
until I, too, begin to sing,  
my treetop window

their song reaching  
of this canyon;  
that is the life  
and decay  
singing the beauty of growth  
their blue trumpets  
stonework,  
a wall's crumbling

fanning across  
the houses above,  
banks toward  
its cobblestone  
and climb