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Vulture / Pigeons

John Grey

Lynn Maudlin

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Vulture / Pigeons

Abstract

Vulture: The vulture is the most fabulous of birds. Pigeons: The pigeons turned to vultures in the night, By morning light they were eating city carrion.

Additional Keywords

Poetry; Vulture; Pigeons; John Grey; Lynn Maudlin

VULTURE

by John Grey

The vulture
is the most fabulous
of birds.

It hovers over
the still living
as if it can read
the future in its
beady head.

I pay good money
to have my tea-leaves read

when I only need
to look up,

pin-point the center
of their dark circles.

PIGEONS (a lyric)

by Lynn Maudlin

The pigeons turned to vultures in the night,
By morning light they were eating city carrion.
Debris among the wreckage, the rape and carnage -
That's how they found us.

Huddled in twisted ruins, steel and concrete;
Nothing to eat, hiding from the shadows all around
us.

We must have looked like animals; and we were --
That's how they found us.

Long-limbed and silver, lithe.
Their very presence exiled the night.
We stood in wonderment and fright.

Speaking softly, as to a dog or to a child
One of them smiled, they will take us home
Among the distant stars, the singing stars --
They will take us home.

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