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Neck of the World

F. Daniel Rzicznek

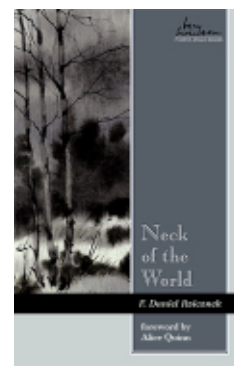
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STORMDWELLER

It starts with the call of a lamp
to a book across the room
and the call of the book
to a crippled spider overhead,
the spider not calling at all
anymore, the mute lines
of inquiry growing in half-circles
toward the call of huge winds
wanting to lift the third story
out over the bare mountains,
twist it there like a cloud,
the third story itself calling
to the anonymous thunder
and spinning still inside, the call
of the chair to the haunch,
and the call of haunch to a wren
sunk dead in the rooftop snow,
and the calling of the weathervane
to the kitchen spoons, the calls
of thumbnail to the hammer
and the endless calling of the face
to the skull, the skull calling
and calling, calling unanswered.