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## Neck of the World

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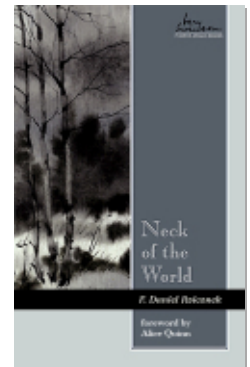
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## DURING FEVER

Caustic wisp of malaria  
    like woodsmoke near the nose,  
tumult of decisive blood  
    en route from twinkling docks,  
a pressing of your figure  
    like a handle into the earth.

Landscape remains portable,  
    the hills rise into your temples.

Leafy coils roll south  
    under black vaults of storm  
soaking your rage,  
    fading your lids a gradual suede.

The trees jitter above you:  
    pin oak, pine, litany of maples.

Roaring sun, imploding roar:  
    death like death only.