



PROJECT MUSE®

## Neck of the World

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## RAINLEGS

The horses all morning  
have been moving and moving.  
When I bend across  
this fence, the grass and my  
pores making friends, the fields  
stretch their flowered hides.

A guide begins its sprout  
in the garden mud: numbers  
and photographs maturing  
under the soft, green shield.  
The horses. I consider this  
kindred house an orchard  
and my shoulder is the rock  
all fathers have carried  
a stinging piece of  
inside themselves: over water,  
and dirt, into the ancient,  
lonely clouds. A house  
has come nearer. When  
I listen, dew buzzes  
in her skin. How to stand  
in this world, or even  
a world resembling this?  
The winds go and go and go.