



Bibhu Padhi

### **AN INERT AFTERNOON IN APRIL**

This body quietly dissolves out to  
the earth's atmosphere, seeps through  
the utmost sky, sees everything from  
above, feels limitless, as if it had discovered  
for the first time, what freedom was.

A fear of space spreads too, over each  
cell, fills each pore, its dark wings  
taking flight to little known places,  
forgotten times, a moment's aloneness  
beyond this body and mind.

And that is exactly when everything  
condenses into a spot of ice  
that is too static and cold for any  
thaw or flow, too much imprisoned  
within itself for death or life.

--Bhubaneswar, India

