

A Photograph Taken By Thomas Merton

I look at a photograph taken by Thomas Merton
and I see a stool, a glove on a stool,
a work-glove on a stool
on a stone floor, outside in the sunshine
the shadow falls to the left
a twig hides in the shadow.
There is a crack in the concrete of the floor.

I look at a photograph taken by Thomas Merton
in the sunshine monastery day
and I see a stool, a glove on a stool
a wooden stool, a work-glove
and I look and look and I see and see

I see the is-ness of the picture
I look and see and am drawn into the
glove-ness of the glove and the stool-ness of the stool.
I see and am drawn into and become
the wood-ness of the wood and the fabric-ness of the fabric
into the stone-ness of the stone,
the shadow-ness of the shadow
and the lightness of the light.

Angus Stuart



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