HANSEL AND GRETEL PARK

Michael Coakley

Yes old man i remember
    i remember
    the three bears
i can taste their porridge
    i can still smell it
as they walked out the door
    leaving it to cool

Yes i can still see
    the children
led into the forest
    that wonderful fairytale forest
leaving bread crumbs
    to mark their way
i can still see the birds
    eating those crumbs
knowing that birds
    only try to live
and mean no harm

I still see you carrying me
    back and forth
not knowing it was better
    than sleep

Yes old man i remember
    the cold mornings
we ate eggs together
    the cold dark winter mornings
before the milkman came
before the city awoke
    a kitchen light
    a kitchen radio
a kitchen stove
quietly
not to wake someone
knowing any upstairs shuffle
would kill the day

Yes i remember the hidden knowledge
in the indian folds of your face
in your trombone
in your suit pocket
beneath your bed
and in your closet

please just one more game
before i go to bed
no its not the game i love
nor the bed i hate
its just something to remember
 together
 some day
Yes old man I still remember

NON-DISTANCE

Michael Coakley

You're better than thermal underwear,
When it comes to keeping me warm,
And much superior to jogging,
For keeping me in form.
You're ahead of Marshall Mac-whats-his-name,
For keeping my mind in motion;
And just when I feel empty and dead,
You're suddenly my every emotion.

Ah yes, you've made me the fittest,
And the fittest they say survive;
Then air is not the only thing
That is keeping me alive.