PATTERN

W. D. Ulrich

All rapids are redeemed:
The dark isolate oxbows,
Those exiled directions,
Lost rivers,
Turning back the last light,
Like old animals, staggered from the herd,
In wait for whate er is theirs alone.

FALSE LIGHTS

and a state of the property

Bert Almon

I sit in a driftwood forest Make more dains fallen timber all around me a blundering armada of jellyfish dry in wedge formation on the sand I am waiting for the false sunset (the real star gone under the sea) letting my tensions sink with the red image out there beyond the Umatilla reef off Cape Alava I see the lightship an anchored heart, waiting for night I know its pulse as well as my own weak flashes in the deeper dark all day an eagle floated off the cloudbanks patrolling flights of seagulls as I watched to learn the clean pounce to drop my good manners and gentle ways the false lights that lead ships to reefs, to the shallows that catch fine lumber, salt-soaked bales and bodies that swell on the sand