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## The Irony

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## *The Irony*

Nothing prepares us for it,  
no memorizing of lists, numbers,  
past events — no geometrician,  
chemist, cubist, farmer  
can subtract a hairsbreadth  
from our ignorance.  
Astronomy is mute,  
economics and the law are mute,  
not to mention the  
plumber, the butcher, the gardener.  
In the face of it,  
theology is a padded room;  
there is no study, whim, invention,  
no field of enquiry — and, once there,  
no addendum, no redress,  
no bargain struck with god,  
no god.  
And this first step, misguided, careless,  
finding one must begin again! — this first step  
makes us ache to go on from there,  
but there are no more steps to be taken,  
no legs, or hands, or feet,  
no walls,  
no shoes.

*Roo Borson*