

and the sea captain
 that greets us, telescope
 screwed to his eye,
 loaded with spangles and charts,
 like a llama spits in our faces.

the green stuff eats our bibs.
 and looking up
 see it already gone
 over the ridges toward Marfa,
 one puff hanging out like a leg
 disappearing into a cave or a mouth ...

Dogs

The dogs are in the cellar
 and howling to get out;
 they have eaten the noble corpses,
 the silver plate, broken into tombs,
 gnawed the hands off statues;
 and now they climb up the flue,
 through cracks in the ceiling.
 they curl behind our chairs,
 test the cruets, observe our pictures;
 hang from the rafters, singing. and
 we slumped in our chairs
 tasting our thumbs, they push
 us around, statuary on wheels,
 speaking the words
 that flash across our eyes ...

-- Peter Wild

Alpine, Texas

HIGHLY RECOMMENDED::

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