

SO AND SO MANY LARKS

383 larks have come 384
tops of birch trees seethe (385) like balloons fantastic
 balloons you blow up gasdeposits on stems
 curtsying like birchtrees yes exactly like
 birchtrees that seethe
388 larks have come and sing over molehills 389
winter's sleeproutes are exposed winter's sleeproutes lie
 exposed and full of water the sun strikes them
a morris drives up over the hill and down and
 rumbles up through the sunken road and

 approaches splashing along the pinetrees
the mailman's morris comes into view under 390 larks

-- Per Højholt

translated from the Danish by Nadia
Christensen and Alexander Taylor

a very humorous man
and very tumorous
with a will of iron
he died

the will was heavy reading
but left it all
for the founding of a foundry
to make parcheesi games
of stainless steel

the flinty aunts
and the nephew in plastics
protested
but the die had been cast

under a mat of juniper,
the towhee sings
from a safe place,
like a poet in
a university,
like an historian
in the train
of a victorious army