

The Lions in Ohio

The lions in Ohio storm down
on historic towns declining lions.

The cries of tigers realign
their long black knives on orange backs.

Bear tracks form a path
to small, ragged mountains
blocking the last piece of sun.

The lions,
drawn out, line the lawns
of Ohio, while the farms remain intact
but for a sudden lack
of lions in Ohio.

ZANESVILLE, Ohio – Lawmen hunted down and killed dozens of wild animals in the rainy fields of central Ohio after their owner apparently opened their dilapidated cages and set them free for the last time, before killing himself. –John Caniglia, The Plain Dealer

*Don Zirilli
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