

## Uncle Joe

What kind of dreams did Joseph Stalin have  
perhaps he did not dream  
maybe he counted bluebirds all night  
giving each and every a name  
Joseph Stalin – was he introspective  
did he have thoughts shared with no one  
not even with himself  
not even with them blue birds  
that kept him company through those long Russian nights  
what kind of man was Joseph Stalin, exactly  
and do you think that we could have been friends, he and I  
if I had acted removed, uninterested, coy – do you think it  
could have been  
Joseph Stalin and I, friends, confidants, drinking  
companions, imagine  
the things we could have accomplished together  
the trouble and the misunderstandings that I could have  
steered him clear of  
the bluebird dreams he could have introduced me to  
insomnia, you know, likes companionship.

*-John Sandoval*