

The Attraction of Equal Bodies by Rich Ives

The body of a planet pulls the objects and creatures
coming close to that planet a little bit closer.
It gives us gravity.

I read the newspaper, I watch the news, I surf the
internet,
amazed at how excited the tragedies are to be given
more
attention than they wanted and how sure of
themselves
the cute fools are who stumble among the ordinary
upon the celebrity of pets and people who are pets.
Fifteen minutes is far too long to be famous.
Let's each take ten minutes of peace.

However small, the body of an object or creature
coming close pulls the planet a little bit closer.
Imagine then two objects, two creatures, two
equal gravities without the interference of a planet.
But how drawn to each other can you be without a
home?
To fall out of bed, to land at the end of flight, to
leap,
knowing you will fall homeward, to love
what is already drawn to approach
is a gravity of indecision.
Choose it.

Because I am with you,
I must live up to what I would be
if I were with you.

Rich Ives is the 2009 winner of the Francis Locke Memorial Poetry Award from *Bitter Oleander* and the 2012 winner of the Creative Nonfiction Prize from *Thin Air* magazine. His book of days, *Tunneling to the Moon*, is currently being serialized with a work per day appearing for all of 2013 at <http://silencedpress.com>.