

Wilderness House Literary Review 5/3

Howie Good

In The Archives of Unwanted Thoughts

Open windows can be hazardous.

If there's no music,
why are the trees dancing?

Everyone believes
they are someone else.

Custer, for example.

When they found his body
on the battlefield,

he had an arrow
shoved up his penis.

They never told his wife.

It's the sort of stuff you think about
late at night.

Diorama

1

The horse collapsing on the bridge,
the fire in the background,

the use of the moon,

its flesh and fur stripped away
with elk-bone scrappers

and its hide made pliable
with the buffalo's mashed brains.

2

The wolf sits back
on its haunches and watches.

The eye is the hammer.

To polish a diamond,
there is nothing like its own dust.