

**Wilderness House Literary Review 12/4**

*Joseph Farley*  
**So Any Way**

If you ask me I will tell you.  
If you don't, I may anyway.  
What is said is for your blessing,  
And to lessen what's inside.  
You see there's so much of it.  
It has to go someplace,  
Might as well stuff it in your ears.

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### Chin Up

Tomorrow you will  
figure it out,  
It will be too late  
to be of any value  
to you or anybody,  
but you will know.  
Take satisfaction in that  
Before you fuck up  
The next problem.

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### Against Gravity

Gravity and I have never gotten along.  
My desire to fly by flapping my arms  
has not diminished since childhood.  
I still try, now and then,  
When no one's looking,  
And sometimes when they are.  
I may never make it to the sky,  
But exercise is good for the heart,  
And my mad flapping  
Can keep away the flies.  
You should invite me to barbecues  
And let me stand by  
Fanning the plates of undercooked meat  
And potato salad, heavy food,  
For people content with being  
weighted to the ground.

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### Believe

When I was a boy I believed.  
No shit. I did. I believed  
And knew and saw  
Angels everywhere, ghosts  
And my own soul rising  
Into the sky over my head.  
What a tortured road  
That got me here, not knowing  
What lie or story to believe,  
But wanting something  
All the same.