Big City Speech

By W. S. Di Piero

Use me
Abuse me
  Turn wheels of fire
  on manhole hotheads

Sing me
Sour me
  Secrete dark matter’s sheen
  on our smarting skin

Rise and shine
In puddle shallows
  under every Meryl Cheryl Caleb Syd
  somnambulists and sleepyheads

Wake us
Speak to us
  Bless what you’ve nurtured in your pits
  the rats voles roaches and all outlivers
  of your obscene ethic and politics

Crawl on us
Fall on us
  you elevations that break and vein
  down to sulfuric fiber-optic wrecks
    through drill-bit dirt to bedrock

Beat our brows
Flee our sorrows

  Sleep tight with your ultraviolet
  righteous mica and drainage seeps

    your gorgeous color-chart container ships
    and cab-top numbers squinting in the mist

Source: Poetry (June 2009)