

# Pentatina for Five Vowels

By Campbell McGrath

Today is a trumpet to set the hounds baying.  
The past is a fox the hunters are flaying.  
Nothing unspoken goes without saying.  
Love's a casino where lovers risk playing.  
The future's a marker our hearts are prepaying.

The future's a promise there's no guaranteeing.  
Today is a fire the field mice are fleeing.  
Love is a marriage of feeling and being.  
The past is a mirror for wishful sightseeing.  
Nothing goes missing without absenteeing.

Nothing gets cloven except by dividing.  
The future is chosen by atoms colliding.  
The past's an elision forever eliding.  
Today is a fog bank in which I am hiding.  
Love is a burn forever debridging.

Love's an ascent forever plateauing.  
Nothing is granted except by bestowing.  
Today is an anthem the cuckoos are crowing.  
The future's a convolute river onflowing.  
The past is a lawn the neighbor is mowing.

The past is an answer not worth pursuing,  
Nothing gets done except by the doing.  
The future's a climax forever ensuing.  
Love is only won by wooing.  
Today is a truce between reaping and rueing.

Source: *Poetry* (October 2012)