

If You Think Language Can Save You

by Ron Watson

When depressing a pedal could be your final act
Goosed by horsepower satisfying greedy death,
He grinning in a party hat that reads, *surprise!*
If you think you have attained a right to expect
After a day of work to spot at highway speeds
A danger lost to light, or expect looking here
To find with the tracks of your bright beams
Some eye-shine of disaster; if you are thinking
That you can revisit a familiar woodsy retreat
And pretend that you are really going home,
However new each unbroken road may unfold;
Or that you will not starve nudging like a lamb
To nibble refined food from a stranger's hand,
Think again, my good friend; think again.