## mortality

when
\& where
you learn
only three sides of the hill are slope
the fourth side 1500 feet of cliff
sheer to a rocky beach below
you race through eternal trees
believe you can mock them
leap over root \& rock
breath lost in slant shafts of light
brief illuminations of you
thrust through trees to earth
only to bring one foot
down on the fourth side cliff
on what was not ground
or path
but
1500 feet before what would be your next step
brian burke

