## 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