

# Harpur Palate: a Literary Journal

---

Volume 11 | Issue 1

Article 43

---

June 2011

## Fever Dream

John James

Follow this and additional works at: <https://orb.binghamton.edu/harpurpalate>

---

### Recommended Citation

James, John (2011) "Fever Dream," *Harpur Palate: a Literary Journal*: Vol. 11: Iss. 1, Article 43.  
Available at: <https://orb.binghamton.edu/harpurpalate/vol11/iss1/43>

This Poetry is brought to you for free and open access by The Open Repository @ Binghamton (The ORB). It has been accepted for inclusion in Harpur Palate: a Literary Journal by an authorized editor of The Open Repository @ Binghamton (The ORB). For more information, please contact [ORB@binghamton.edu](mailto:ORB@binghamton.edu).

## James: Fever Dream

# FEVER DREAM

## JOHN JAMES

Rumor of winter: the stars are duly aligned  
and I'm afraid  
of what the weather might do.

The sow this month freezes in her skin  
and there is no barn in which to sleep.

I wrench myself awake: moon-bright  
in the yoke of blue November.

And the oxen, they are gone, buried  
in the swale  
that we call heaven.

On my eyelids, the half-buds of fireflies  
droning that summer  
in their yellow haze of longing—

your mouth, mine, wreathed in position  
to make this gift  
comforted, as if to say, mother.