

INTRUDER IN THE WOODS

Twigs snap and leaves crunch underfoot.
Tree tops rustle with the wings of departing birds,
Chirping their warning to chipmunks and deer
To give wide berth to the intruder in the woods.

The path slants down.
Rocks and roots give perches
to feet pushing back against the slope
and moving relentlessly toward the sound of

W-A-T-E-R
tumbling over ledges
cascading into pools
enveloping rocks
pushing past fallen trees
returning countless raindrops to the sea.

A two footed collection of raindrops
sits on a rock beneath towering trees,

with mind wandering
from trees to stream to ocean,
pondering the importance
of words and emotions
that never connect to the earth or the sea.