

## staring into black

sooner or later  
every man must stop fighting  
the stars.

sooner or later  
his life will run him down  
and he will lose  
what he holds most dear.

the one thing  
that has kept him going  
    given him reason during the day  
    and comfort  
    during the hour of the wolf  
will slip from his grasp.

no beacon  
no safe harbor  
dead-eyed stranger in the mirror  
old fool ground down by the days  
slack skin staring into black  
    night after sleepless night  
alone and drowning  
    in the far end of the pool.