

***Katsushika Hokusai, (Japan) Eagle 415#***

SHARON HAWLEY

***Eagle in a Snowstorm***

I can hunker down if I choose  
bear this storm like the ones before it  
with legs folded like a roosting chicken  
head tucked under wing  
feathers fluffed  
body pointed windward like a cow

instead I stand facing the storm  
like a kite  
like an umbrella  
looking back over my shoulder  
gawking at past assaults  
projectiles that failed to kill me

Get behind me, you oncoming blast!



CHRIS WESLEY

***Eagle To A Snowstorm***

*Illustration by Ross Anthony*

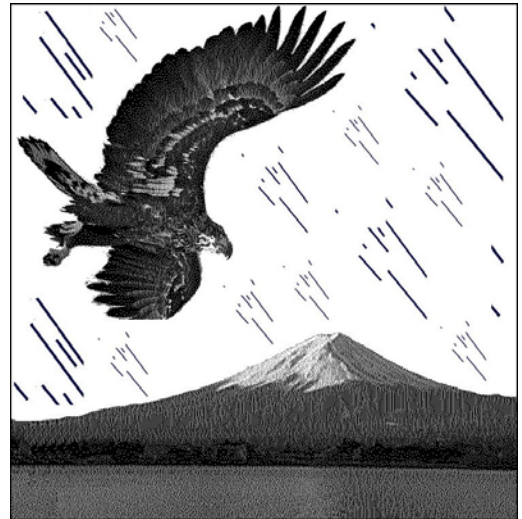
The sharp upward turn of my head  
to face you  
Flings off the snow you deposited  
on my beak, storm

No,  
you will find no casting down  
of my gaze  
or whimpering of my spirit

For I know I shall continue to adorn my perch  
when not taken to wing  
long after the remnants of you have melted away  
and become  
a mere container for the fish I eat

M. KEI

eagle in the snow  
yes, I too,  
have put my face  
to the winter wind  
and flown



*Illustration by Alex Nodopaka*