

BIG WORDS

Helminthology  
is only the science of worms,  
don't be overcome by the *helms*  
and the *minths* preceding in formal  
procession the *logos*. The taxonomy  
need not alarm you nor make you feel  
I am showing off. I just love big words,  
that's all, but I can see by your avuncular  
disapproval that you are not convinced.  
Can't you see that the word is only  
the chondroid cover of tiny phalanges  
articulating in the joints of the alphabet?  
Little letters,  
inflorescing all kinds of gestures  
in the schizogenesis of meaning,  
flagellate each other to reproduce  
a chain in the paleontology of our race  
now well and truly cut  
from the Sumerian umbilical cord.  
Big words fatten on the tongue  
and sometimes they are difficult  
to swallow in the education of a dictionary,  
but you are the one who sees them as plums,  
I suck the preposterous bulls' eyes  
down to the rich red vein.