

Barb

“Cedar and jagged fir / uplift sharp barbs / against the gray / and cloud-piled sky;

A sharp point projecting backward from a main point.

Batter

“this smoky cry / curled over a black pine / like a broken / and wind-battered branch”

To beat repeatedly.

Cedar

“Cedar and jagged fir / uplift sharp barbs / against the gray / and cloud-piled sky;

Any of several Old World, coniferous trees having wide, spreading branches.

Curdle

“when the wind / bends the tops of the pines / and curdles the sky / from the north.”

To thicken and separate into liquids and solids.

Dissonance

“This is a beauty / of dissonance, / this resonance / of stony strand,”

Inharmonious or harsh sound.

Fir

“Cedar and jagged fir / uplift sharp barbs / against the gray / and cloud-piled sky;

Any coniferous tree belonging to the pine family, characterized by its flat needles and erect cones.

Jagged

“Cedar and jagged fir / uplift sharp barbs / against the gray / and cloud-piled sky;

Having a sharply uneven edge or surface.

Mate

“A wild duck calls / to her mate, / and ragged / and passionate tones / stagger and fall,”

One member of a breeding pair of animals.

Passionate

“A wild duck calls / to her mate, / and ragged / and passionate tones / stagger and fall,”

Having, showing, or expressing strong emotions or beliefs.

Ragged

“A wild duck calls / to her mate, / and ragged / and passionate tones / stagger and fall,”

Having an edge or surface that is rough or uneven.

Resonance

“This is a beauty / of dissonance, / this resonance / of stony strand,”

The quality of a sound that stays loud, clear, and deep for a long time.

Spume

“and in the bay / blown spume and windrift / and thin, bitter spray / snap / at the whirling sky;”

Bubbles that form on ocean waves.

Strand

“This is a beauty / of dissonance, / this resonance / of stony strand,”

The land bordering the sea, a lake, or a river.

Tone

“A wild duck calls / to her mate, / and ragged / and passionate tones / stagger and fall,”

Quality or character of sound.

Uplift

“Cedar and jagged fir / uplift sharp barbs / against the gray / and cloud-piled sky;”

To lift up.

Whirl

“and in the bay / blown spume and windrift / and thin, bitter spray / snap / at the whirling sky;”

To turn rapidly in a circular motion.