

RIVER AIR

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BACKWATER SMELLS OF THE MISSISSIPPI
GLASSY BROWN PUNGENT GLIDE
OVER RIPPLES OF FRISKY FISH
PASSED THE STENCH OF ONE STIFF AND DRY
RIVER AIR ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF TOWN
RIVER AIR KEEPS FLOWING DOWN

PURPLE PHLOX RING THE ISLANDS
DEER HOOVES DANCE IN THE MUD
ROTTING WEED HANGS IN BRANCHES
MARKING A SECOND SPRING FLOOD
RIVER AIR ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF TOWN
RIVER AIR KEEPS FLOWING DOWN

I'VE GOT MUCK STUCK IN MY NOSE
WHERE THE RIVER ROLLS IN HER BED
SILT BILLOWS UP LIKE SMOKE
AS CARP SHOVELS IT WITH THEIR HEAD
RIVER AIR ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF TOWN
RIVER AIR KEEPS FLOWING DOWN

HERON SQUAWK IN GREEN AND BLUE
MINNOWS TWITCH IN BEAKS
THEY FLY WITH THE COTTON DOWN HUMID SLOUGHS
SNAKES AND TURTLES SURFACE TO BREATHE
RIVER AIR ON THE OUTSKIRT OF TOWN
RIVER AIR KEEPS FLOWING DOWN

I BET MUSKRATS SMELL ME
PADDLING RIGHT PASSED THEIR DEN
NOSY RIVER WANDERS IN AND OUT
OF MY MIND WITH EVERY BREATH
RIVER AIR ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF TOWN
RIVER AIR KEEPS FLOWING DOWN