

Embodiment

But if we are only bodies, we bodies
can feel horror at being only bodies

and the fact of this horror means
body must mean
more than the worst way of taking it:
more than the horror suggests...

For centuries, we bodies
tried to construct a theodicy of this

thinking it was horror's liar paradox—
I, horror, do solemnly arise to deny myself—
but it was something more modest,
a liar self-limitation, an abridgment

that made bodies billow paradoxically
in a smaller cloud, still more unknown.