

Steve Mueske

INTO THE REALM OF ANGELS AND RADIO WAVES

Rescuers save driver hanging from I-4 rail

—Orlando Sentinel, July 11, 2002

dangling
by a wish-
bone-shaped bolt
the woman sits
in her 2-ton SUV strapped
practicing the art
of stillness
in this swaying silence
long after
her screams and the ghost of her screams
have stopped
there is a kind
of beauty
in
time suspended
the coiling tension in her arms
the naked curiosity
of souls
below
she knows now
the precise distance
between
heart and throat
having found strength in the deepest
well of will

by accident

she is conscious
of
every
vibration
every shifting nuance
of the earth's body
even
the weight
of her own breath
...
here
is
the long-sought-after
proof
of other minds:
the woman lifted out
of
her cage
and into
the realm of angels
and radio waves
there can be
no arguments
about external objects
or the sufficiency of a hand
as proof thereof
just the TV world watching
one extended hand,
one reaching hand
all of us
watching