

Christine Sikorski  
*(for Kaz Tanahashi)*

**ZERO**

can look like a basket closed  
with a ribbon

can draw your eyes inside  
to completion

or outside to emptiness

a teacher says the painted line  
exists only in your mind

so you take one end of the ribbon  
in each hand

and let zero open

suddenly you find yourself  
streaming through boundless sky

even as the ribbon flutters away  
you remain buoyed up

passing for a wild bird  
whose feet have forgotten

how the earth once felt certain