

Pepperidge Tree

Across the lawn, away from the house
the broad pepperidge tree with
glacial granite, erratic benches
waiting around the thick gray trunk

Leathery leaves move in atmospheric time
tint the shade as spring fresh green
moves through rich summer darkness
into fall's rosy chill

Stately tree, too big to climb
shelters contemplation
hard rock giving solid cues
for meditation's end

Closed eyes sense the changes
in airy glissandos
of call and response
shaping the daily weather report

Lean back against the tree
as leaves jam with birds on the wind
add your musical thoughts
to leaf whispered layers, sit in on their duet

Soloing with heart's desire
listen to the perfect audience
as leaves roar approval
and the birds join in

