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Geese Home In on the Marsh

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Geese Home In on the Marsh

Long trip as the earth curves
around its same old props,
the stars, clouds, slip
of a moon, and the marsh
coming into view now just
as they left it, nothing
important changes that much,
parent to child, though earth,
running its seasonal gamut,
would have us think otherwise.

So here I am again, precise
to the day, just like the geese,
I flatter myself, as they circle,
nodding to each other, cutting
through scientific detachment with
precisely measured squawks, a kind
of self-congratulation, I presume
from no other premise than
a sense of my own immediacy,

squawks that are ragged silver
at the edges, glare of swollen
glands for a center. Another year
has now officially passed,
so I can make do again,
step back into a story
with no moral to do it justice.

James Doyle

JAMES DOYLE's latest book is *The Long View Just Keeps Treading Water* (2012), available from Accents Publishing. He lives in Fort Collins, Colorado.

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