

*disowning*

1.

go to the desert

lie down on

what the map

would show to

be a line

pick yourself up

find another line

lie down

get up

erase all the

lines this way

and that

think of it as

a poem without [no stanza break]

line without  
lines between

lines

think of it as  
picking up  
a lie

**2.**

train your eyes  
on the horizon  
of the page

walk away from  
it and every  
thing else

train your eyes  
to look down to  
where words  
fall away  
beneath you

run your finger  
down the page  
and away from  
the horizon

your eye follows  
the finger the  
horizon follows  
your eyes

### 3.

stop to look  
around now  
and then to  
take back what  
you said

the names  
on all the  
peaks and  
valleys

the small  
burrows  
and thin  
shrubs  
burning  
on the desert  
floor

pick up after  
yourself and  
the shadow of  
others who  
departed  
before you

the loose  
punctuation  
blowing by  
in the wind

4.

a blank page

think of a blank  
page at the  
end of a book

closing the book  
and picking up  
your steps as

backwards

you go

closing up  
the mountains  
and sand as  
you walk off  
the land and out  
of the words.