**Just Before the Rain Falls**

1. The wind comes up.
2. It bends the trees.
3. The bending is in a rhythm.
4. The rhythm is against the sky.
5. There is a darkening.
6. It is as if the sky were poising itself.
7. Clouds scud against the horizon.
8. The clouds are fat.
9. The clouds are grayish.
10. The scudding is low.
11. A hush gentles the wind.
12. The trees suddenly go still.
13. A boy looks up from his play.
14. The boy is little.
15. He looks at the trees.
16. The trees are no longer making a noise.
17. He feels something on his arm.
18. The something is light.
19. The something is wet.
20. And then it begins to rain.
21. It rains like hell.