

# Beauty is a Real Thing, I've Seen It

by Jay Hopley

If only those parakeets would settle

A little nearer to where I'm sitting, instead of at the tops of far-off  
trees, this morning

Would be so much more remarkable.

One could watch the blackbirds, I suppose, peck their ways like  
Oxford dons across

The flagstone paths and lawns, or the swallows, or the sparrows,  
Or the crows. But those birds are so plain—, so...painfully  
available.

No, only those parakeets will do and they will not do

What I want them to. In this, they are like everything else in the  
world.

Every beautiful thing.