

GRAMMAR OF BIRDS

(don't slide
aw ay)

Words are bi rds

No man is so guileless
as the serpent

Yet are thought to be
an ominous men for disgrace
— From dread
they were put to death

Need to protect

fix the slits

would never break
the ripple

Winding bodies in a lair

Melampus cherished

those little snakes

hellebore
hellebore
hellebore
hellebore

A somnolent afternoon

sunlight drenching the eyelids

a gleam gliding in the grass
a hiss in the ear

flickering tongues
wetting the ear's spiral

No lie in a forked tongue

that cleanse the ear

reveal the grammar

of birds & creatures

a gift of tongues

Words are birds

hellebore
hellebore
hellebore
hellebore