### EGOTISTICALGIRAFFE

"I don't know what it is. But I know it existed. And I know it's NSA." -Bill Arkin

#### NEVERSHAKEABABY.

It existed, though whatever it was now goes by a different name. Onionskins so transparent their veins pulse with nonexistence. TORn at the see ms, hot-

patched f i xed. Betelguise in dis

guise. Three times removed appears

gone.

Anonymity—?

once it has a name

vanish e s.

#### Not to Mention the Clouds

after "Winter Field" a photograph by Robert and Shana ParkeHarrison

man

ants off bearing seeded stalk double his height

across the horizon undaunted by earth's curvature despite the scope of the field diminishing the man's anty aspirations with the ornament so grandly ungainly yet sustainable for a prolonged period underground

beneath the thin green grassline

hidden

warrens filled with fibrous filet au dandelion and bonsai pedicle webs tethered and trimmed into miniature topiary

knotted sculptures that cast shadows increasingly more complex and jagged.

what else

with free time and will

and even opposable thumbs

majuscule lilliputian gestures

tiny flames you can hold in your cupped hands

and release

without setting the kitchen aflame.

# Swatted

		they would call it a joke gone wrong	
up red	up red	down blue	down blue
up red		down blue	
	up red		down blue
up red		down blue	
		palm trunks like sentries	
	up red		down blue
up red		down blue	
		fronds sway in the breeze	
up	up red	down	down blue
red	up red	blue	down blue
up red	up	down blue	down
	red		blue
		punctuated illumination lifting upwards to genuflect to the very air.	as though

## **A Lightning Spring**

springs a sapling so past deep into the sky it lands in October toting tiny leaves with deep arteries begging begging-beg -ging-begging to the field to the snowglobe to the gawkers watching the sun refract and expand on the tree's exposed roots. The hardship of particulate to twist all that light. The rainbows. The rainbows. The cliché overridden by the spectrum. And how terrible the sliding to memory—that lightning sprung spectrum.

for Michael "Eyedea" Larsen