

John Foy

Night Vision

You'll never see it if you look
directly at it in the dark.
It's just a shifting, black
on black, something just

a part of the perimeter,
no claim upon it as it comes
along the bales of razor wire
deftly and alone,

and it is near you now, has
somehow gotten in, at peace
with what it does
in the darkness, and why.

Suboptimal

I dwell at night among devices
that are linked up in the dark
and sometimes come alive
with lights, blinking on my desk
to indicate another message coming in
from a suboptimal world
I don't much feel like living in
tonight, wanting only, like a child,
to pull the covers up and close my eyes
to cables and wires and the on-line
lie and the rigged life they try
to make me think is uncompromised and mine
and beyond anyone's asking how this
makes better what's left of my hours.