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The Problem with Microscopes

Beth Shirley California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo

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Shirley: The Problem with Microscopes

THE PROBLEM WITH MICROSCOPES

Beth Shirley

The Problem with Microscopes is that they require a lens.
Mine seeped light through ethereal matter, clouded, examined through frosted glass on a white-washed platform.

It offered a thin view of a narrow slice of a dead thing.

I saw black and
I saw white.
I saw great minds of my generation with cloudy disdain,
mistook my own squinting for scoffing.

Organic vision crept quietly, patiently stealing through the night...

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and I saw a hue.

And another, and another, until I saw the one, so repulsive, I drew away.

I saw my microscope painted white on a red, glossy sandwich board.

And I saw minds of my generation, sifting through empirical data, seeking desired answers by blocking hues with ethereal matter.

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