

# Rondel: Beside water at nightfall

by [Steve Wilson](#) in the [December 26, 2006](#) issue

So near to evening, thoughts against thought will run,  
    &nbsp;unsettled in currents: fish, aswim down suddened light.  
    &nbsp;Upon the bank, I've slowed to discern the turn toward night  
in the songs of birds. Even water itself is by dark undone.

Trees and road, hill and distance—all coaxed into one.  
    &nbsp;Stern shapelessness, I cannot place myself. Wouldn't know right  
so near to evening. Thoughts against thought will run,  
    &nbsp;unsettled in currents: fish, aswim down suddened light.

like this, then—boat that drifts for the shore, done  
    &nbsp;with floating blind. At the edge of my vision, a white  
    &nbsp;something. Sand bar? Rock break? There's not enough sight  
to say. Will I learn at last how much such doubts have won?  
So near to evening, thoughts against thought will run.