

# Cavity

by [Richard Kuslan](#) (July 2020)



*Angelus Novus*, Paul Klee, 1920

The effect of gravity upon the teeth  
One underestimates for an overbite:  
The subtle invisibility of its  
Underhanded down-pulling that none can sense  
Underwhelms, so we must overcompensate,  
Keeping the jaw as wide as leviathan:  
Welcoming the circulation of the Qi  
Into the ribbed vessel of flesh that captures  
For eighty-odd orbits 'round a burning bush  
The unsullied, unspoiled ovarian  
Soul, buoyed, afloat in riparian bowl:  
The gold sphere of our Ptolemaic lattice.  
This ought to be our practice, yet we refrain.  
Resentful antagonism, the gods disdain.

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Richard Kuslan is an admirer of Donne, Sheridan, Byron, LeFanu, Trollope, Orwell, Sacheverell Sitwell, Christopher Logue and Jean Sprackland, among (many) others in the English language. He marvels at meaning's fecundity when language is constrained by form and delights in the melodies that take to the air when the beautiful is read aloud.

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