

Kind Witness

Zoë Dagneault

I saw a seagull stuck in a construction crane
hanging upside down, other gulls circled
an apathy settled on their wings, a slow orbit

A lady I hardly knew told me of a snake that became trapped
in a garden basin in her home in Miami
she couldn't remove it, yet stayed as death was surely coming
as she waited, snakes came from all directions
from glades and gutters, a community gathering
a glissade to witness a death of one of their own
when the snake stopped thrashing, they dispersed

Is this how we will thrash and writhe
coiling, feathers breaking to some beginning

czech mate(s) by Beatriz Alegria Fernandes

