

Titled

after Larry Poons' Away Out on the Mountain

1.

A couple stands on a white surface, looking at a painting entitled Away Out on the Mountain. It hangs from a hot air balloon.

ANDY: I don't see the mountain. It's just pink with those colored eggs.

EVELYN: Maybe you're supposed to stand back and squint. Sometimes it helps to squint.

ANDY: This isn't *Magic Eye*.

EVELYN: Wait. You aren't even supposed to see the Mountain. You're *on* the mountain.

ANDY: I am?

2.

Crayola demarcates
the spectrum

(like Adam
made denominations
from the green)

the continuum

each name splitting
into parts

the way
differs from

Mountain Lion
House Cat

and
from

Mountain Meadow
Jungle Green.

There are more colors without names, whose eggs
are ripe with words but unable to hatch. Stillborns
have coloring like mixed emulsions.

3.

This seems to be a painting of

eggs

in *Wild Strawberry* landscape.

Some

are

Carnation Pink,

others are

Periwinkle,

some *Magenta*

and *Red Violet.*

4.

To name them *eggs*
is to tie a string
to them. Maybe
they are

ovals or orbits

light beams or globes

globes droplets

balloons spheres.

Now

they each are attached
to a string
which ties them
each to a word
that floats

above them

like balloons.

Oval

Orbit

Light beam

Globe

Glob

Droplet

Balloon

Sphere

Egg

5.

Larry (who is short for *Laurence*)
tied
the first strings
to this painting,
anchoring

a hot pink balloon.
His balloon
and large full of hot air
rises
over
the green mountain.

Tied to the balloon
a large banner-ad flutters
in the wind.

It reads:
Away Out on the Mountain.