

MUSINGS

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Nature, naturally!



I

Aha! I think I've got it.
I think I've figured out
where the elephants got the idea
for their skin texture.

A large, leafy tree stands on a grassy hill under a dramatic, cloudy sky. The tree is the central focus, with its dense foliage in shades of green and yellow. The sky is filled with dark, heavy clouds, with a bright light source breaking through on the right side, creating a strong contrast and highlighting the tree's leaves. The foreground shows a rolling green hillside.

II

Today, as I touched the thick, tough bark
of an ancient Scrub Oak
atop Cnochán Dara na Naomh,
I realized that elephants plagiarized it.

The image is a close-up, low-angle shot of a tree trunk. The bark is highly textured, with deep grooves and a rough, scaly appearance. The lighting is dramatic, with bright highlights on the right side of the trunk and deep shadows on the left. In the background, there are green leaves and branches, some of which are out of focus. The overall color palette is dominated by greens and browns, with a strong contrast between light and shadow.

III

The great trunk of the oak tree
is rough and runneled,
pitted and pock-marked,
calloused and cracked and creviced,
and looks just like the great hind leg
of a pachyderm from Africa.

A large African elephant stands in a savanna landscape. The elephant is the central focus, shown in profile facing right. Its skin is dark and wrinkled, with some lighter patches on its back. It has a prominent tusk on its right side. The background features a large, dense acacia tree with green foliage on the left, and a sunset sky with warm orange and yellow tones on the right. The ground is covered in dry grass and some green plants.

IV

Is it plagiarism
when Nature borrows one of her own
good ideas
and applies it elsewhere?

Like sisters stealing garments
from each other's closely-guarded closets,
flora and fauna imitate each other.



V

Fauna is what happens
when nature abandons roots
in favor of legs, fins and wings.

VI

If imitation is the highest form of flattery,
then self-imitation
is the ultimate form of self-confidence.

Mother Nature
pat yourself on the back.

Namasté,

Seán

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