

remember the roaches
and don't be afraid
of anything, anyone
ever again
remember the roaches
that crawled in your bed
they fell on your pillow
parasite parachutes

dropping

softly

right beside
your heedless sleepy head

piled like wet leaves by the swings
scratching legs across the floor
begging entry
buggers knocking
on the bunker door

all of the bugs in from the cold
fly round the room
try on your clothes

one hitched a ride
stow away all the way
to work

where he jumped out and said

“remember the roaches
and don't be afraid
of anything, anyone, ever again”