

## A Dark Spot, Glistening

I went walking today  
not something I do  
usually

especially not under a low sun  
in crackling windless air  
still, I went walking

it didn't take long  
to feel the trickle of sweat  
rolling down  
between my shoulder blades

even less time  
for my fingers  
to come away slick  
from my forehead

behind me in the distance  
there was a cyclist  
gaining slowly  
without looking I knew  
that it was him  
the farmer

he stopped beside me  
I could see that underneath his jacket  
was another jacket  
a jumper and a shirt

we talked awhile  
well, he talked  
I listened  
or rather  
I nodded

a few minutes went by  
before he climbed onto his bicycle  
told me that he had enjoyed the chat  
and I watched him cycle away  
as the world trembled in the heat

my mouth was dry  
but I spat on the ground even so  
watching it land on the yellow dirt  
a dark spot, glistening  
in just a minute or two  
it would disappear