



As they fell and fell, they saw:

apple, grapple, ripple, apply,
doppler, stipple, topple, supply,
gabble, pebble, hobble,
dappled, stubble, topple, bobble,
rubble, scrabble, babble,
nibble, squabble, wobble, rabble,
applause, supple, dribble,
bubble, cobble, quintuple—
words, words, words.
On and on they came.

Can you say that list fast?



They continued to fall for a long time—
how could they climb?
They fell down like a rhyme,
past dictionaries of words
and newspapers of words
and stories of words.

Some poems flew by
with times in their chimes.

Sometimes the words flew in lines,
such as noun-verb-pronoun:

Chickens see him.
Beagles like her.

Sometimes there was an adverb:

Chickens cluck **rapidly**.
Chickens cluck **always**.
Beagles gobble **sloppily**.
Beagles gobble **soon**.

