

## Deborah II

There is that piquant part of a developing affair  
when love is still a distant stop  
but liking has already been passed  
that panopies all day actions with tart suspension  
and tinges night dreams with quicker breaths.  
It makes a cat of us all  
leaping continually, vainly, playfully, to catch  
and conquer a toy prey not fully known.  
There are times, like today, when I want  
to be that cat, suspended for eight lives  
just a tooth, a claw away from what I want  
to make mine and me.

Greg Gatenby