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To Seamus Heaney in Heaven

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To Seamus Heaney in Heaven

Iggy McGovern

When word came I was midway
In a letter to yourself...
“What’s he after now?” you ask.
I had begun like Kavanagh’s swan,
‘head low with many apologies’,
As Hamilton once wrote to Wordsworth
Occiditque legendo!
And keeping to the last
The joke I knew you would enjoy,
The one about the Greek tailor:
Euripides? Eumenides?
But you were already beyant, like Gunnar
Sharing poems with The Greats
Miłosz, Brodsky, Lowell, Auden, Yeats.