

Firewalk Mantra

miles between me
and the mountain
wind-scoured, sand-strewn
the only path
to the river
lies through deserts

fire scalds the skies
breath is burning
fire sears the earth
stones burst, scorching
surrender flesh
rise above ash

make flame a friend
what burns is clean
where no tracks lead
pain knows the way
one step, one world
one world, one step

peaks lost to clouds
of smoke or mist,
I cannot tell
I must believe
invisible
mountains still stand

mountains still wait
rivers still run
hidden waters
still spring in me
one step, one world
one world, one step

my feet ignite
conflagration
carries me on
I remember
I am the prayer
ancestors sang

one step, one world
one world, one step
unfolding hands
I find I hold
mountains in me
submitting self

drought was a myth
I told myself
now I am rain
and riverbank
firewalker
cloud bringer