

ON HOLIDAY

a child's
play of shadowy
particulars

amalgamated
with rational
abstraction

inchoately
infused in transparent
crystalline substance

mere images
painted imprecisely
within the mind

categories peel
back to the real
bare substratum

a symbol
of a symbol of
a symbol of a-

an object that
symbolizes itself and
its symbolism

hylomorphic products
handcrafted by fallen
subjects

so much
depending, amending—
condescending—Bah!

all these
concepts on holiday,
seeking a place to stay

—reader, what
do you see?
what do you say?—

Parmenides, hold
my calloused
hand

let's walk down
the restless shores
of the Piraeus,

ease our
abstraction,
amalgamate

with
exuberant
particulars

gather
high-flying
seabirds,

dig trenches with
quarrelsome
sand crabs

& together
we'll write
a new poem.