

CELLAN JAY

## You Can Raise Trout in Your Back Yard

Plant the seeds in dew  
a leaf collects,  
wait a day or two  
for a blind pod to form,  
slake it with rainwater  
hook its hunger with worms.

When the trout outgrows its leaf  
transplant at a depth of five  
inches into sandy soil,  
riverbottom silt if you've  
got it. Let night's  
shadow pass over the fish  
thirty times,  
moondust will silver its scales,  
carve fins and gills.

When you sit within your porch  
light's orb, cast your  
night fears at the garden plot,  
your crop will gorge on them,  
spin its copper spittle.

Your trout will grow nose up,  
open its eyes when ripe.  
Make sure you pick it right away  
or you'll lose it. A trout  
would as soon turn tail  
swim down to the water table  
to drink the wine of freedom there

as grace your table as filet  
or avant-garde bouquet.