
POETRY

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MARIGOLD HEAD

Like a yellow flower
burst into bloom
on the slender stalk
of a green cattail
near the centre
of the prairie slough

Marsh marigold head
into black-petalled eyes
belonging
to a coal-black body
startlingly decorated
with white wing patches

Voice as violent
as the arresting colours —
low hoarse croaking call
song with low rasping notes
ending in the long descending buzz
of the Yellowheaded Blackbird.

CLEVER JILL

“Wheeeo! Wheeeo!”
Gray Jay
how did you get your nickname
of “Whisky Jack”?
Did you act
so friendly and tame
that one gray
boring day
someone invented a game
of making you frisky
by pouring you whisky?
And did your mate
have enough brain
to stay away
so that she would not receive the
name
of “Whisky Jill”?



Gray Jay

Wayne Lynch