

Birds of Prey

I'd rather face the uncertainty of subjugation
than be placated by all the imperfect subjunctives
larking-off politicians' tongues
who ignore the problem with probabilities.

After all, were not millions slain—the birds
that once flew from Asia to Europe,
now just an ocean away from extinction?

Do you think they will drown in cold salt,
sink out of existence
before the shores are littered with our carrion?

Or will the American eagle be ravaged
by scavenging plagues, along with swans
swooning, dropping in torrents as rain,
from broken dna,
poxed with pain?