

Remembering

to re

member

do I go back to the beginning
and start over
like a song or special handshake
relying on the first note
first gesture to unravel the whole
or can I remember
right where I am

place my finger
in the middle of a word
sentence page book
in the middle of a library
endless with middles
and recall how it started and why

to re
member

as in
put back together
like Humpty-Dumpty
only it's not a child's rhyme
it's my line

as in
to re claim
re pair
re turn
not to Humpty-Dumpty's wall
measured and martyred
but to
myself

to re member
how it started and why

I'm even
writing this poem

to remember

I need the quiet dark of upturned soil
my shovel's blade, my pen's ink, cutting through
the crusty now for
the fertile backstory of what's to come