

## RICK JONES / NOTHING LIKE POEMS

### NOTHING LIKE POEMS / 1

for Manda

These rocks are nothing like  
the landscape I have known  
they are but bigger than  
the tide-pools underneath  
can barely just reflect them

And there are moonstones  
for my daughter's hand  
the spit & polish of  
innumerable waves  
has washed them on the sand

But in the cave—Oh  
there are tigers  
she says she hears them  
roaring  
and all I see  
are clusters of anemone  
closing when we pass

## NOTHING LIKE POEMS / 3

90 or so  
ft. below us  
& not quite under  
the cliff & therefore  
out of sight  
or on a beach  
that might have been there  
were

3 rocks  
just barely  
tided over  
by an in. or two  
of unreasonably  
blue water

because they didn't  
move even  
when I dropped a rock  
that may have hit the beach  
—if there was one—  
they were nothing like seals

but I told my daughter anyway  
they were  
& only looked like rocks

later  
she told her mother  
there were rocks that  
maybe looked like seals

ANDREI VOZNESSENSKY / FOUR POEMS

Translating from the Russian by Catherine Ross  
Illustrations and Poems by  
Andrei Voznessensky

## NOTHING LIKE POEMS / 5

That tall bridge we crossed to Oregon  
was nothing like the one across  
the Hudson

But there were also boats

Ah!—but they had white tops  
& black bottoms  
& some red by the water

The others were gray  
and all tied together  
& not going nowhere

That's quite a long way to have come