

## Mountain Goats, The "Tianchi Lake"

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Children by the water banks laughing long and loud  
Changbai's high fine western peaks just beneath the  
clouds

Currents in the water churning in their course  
Body of a sea-lion, head just like a horse

Preacher in the soft brown sand begins to speak his  
piece  
High winds in the treetops low flying winter geese  
No one taking pictures everybody still  
And then the water sought its course again the way that  
waters will

No one at the lakeside now, moon up in the sky  
Night birds in the dragon spruce, moaning long and  
high  
Backstroking on the surface, moonlight on its face  
Floats the Tianchi Monster, staring into space

Out around the temple now narcissus in bloom  
Censers packed with sandalwood send smoke into the  
room  
Children in the sand outside on their hands and knees  
Sketching pictures all day long of stranger things than  
these

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