

# The Oval

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## Buffalo Jump

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*Josh Wagner*  
*Buffalo Jump*

silence is the edge  
between delight and  
a buffalo jump

at the bottom is a  
heap. See, at the top is a ...  
and at the base of silence  
someone stares up, and finds he  
has forgotten what he was about  
to say

at the top, on her belly she is  
peering low, shocked at how  
far the gulf has—  
since  
that spark of thunder

the plains roar with it  
and you can see the shrieking eyes  
of the mute

[ Punctured at the base, note  
how the skull has  
fractured here

and here ]

from up top she is shouting  
and he hears her somehow  
from one word  
to another:

“it’s all theory—  
to say  
precisely at what height a fall would  
kill you or would not ”

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