

# To manifest and manifest

by [Peter Cooley](#) in the [September 21, 2010](#) issue

To be open to receive the spirit.  
Easily said: just writing down these words.  
But it may not come as we would have it  
in some Byzantine icon of the Christ,  
Buddha rotund in my neighbor's yard,  
a thousand Muslim men salaamed in prayer.  
It may have to appear in ugliness.  
Today out of a sky black, cold and hard  
as onyx I still had the vision come.  
It was the bird we all call tomorrow.  
You know the one: you saw it as a child.  
It came to you the first dawn you saw light  
and found the word for it: the huge not-you.  
You stood up in your crib. It spoke to you.