

Sea of Galilee: Aerial view

by [Marci Rae Johnson](#) in the [May 29, 2013](#) issue

From a satellite the Sea of Galilee  
looks like my heart, but dark. Jesus  
walked beside it one day. He said,  
“come I will return the blood  
to the empty space.” They say dark  
matter makes up most of this place,  
which neither emits, nor absorbs light.  
From this height the green moss around  
the sea masks the fact of mostly desert.  
The mountains to the east must be  
my lungs. I breathe in the nothing that is  
actually everything. Moss from the sea,  
full of fish and leaves and other debris  
might make its way to me on the jet stream  
anchor itself in my esophagus. Jesus told me  
to fish in this sea. Cast my net, take up  
my boat, because I might bring someone  
up out of the water. Someone to fill my heart  
with fish and sand. Blood and bark.