

Wingspread

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At Wingspread, the home designed  
by Frank Lloyd Wright  
for Herbert Johnson of Johnson Wax,  
the central dome is lit from above  
by circled rows of clerestory windows.  
Unfortunately, those windows leaked.

Once, during a thunderstorm,  
they dripped on the bald and shining crown  
of Herbert F. Johnson himself  
while he presided at the head of a dinner table  
lined with mayors and members of Congress.  
Herbert F. got Frank Lloyd on the phone  
and barked, *What do I do?*  
Wright said, *Move your chair.*

Years later, after the home became  
more or less a public place,  
one of Herbert Johnson's daughters,  
old and bent in a wheelchair,  
would visit of an afternoon  
just to hear percolations of silence.

—*Racine, Wisconsin*