

1.

Life is here at hand.  
Cricket songs raise up the dusk  
Night breeze on your cheek.

2.

A cold snap came up last night.  
I worried for a minute.

Fruit trees are setting.  
Will it ice?  
Are the calves in from the slough?  
Did I leave a stake in the trough  
for the frost to climb?

Then I stepped down from the back porch  
Away from the house lights  
and breathed in  
God's free air.

3.

So hot today  
They say you can fry  
A preacher on the  
Courthouse steps.

Sweat pours off  
The last man standing  
In line for a cold  
Splash of water.

"Hot enough?"  
I shake my head and  
Say the obvious:  
"No such thing."