Potential

potential energy

is what a ball has

as it sits on a table

waiting for gravity to claim it

potential poetry

is what words have

as they sit in the dictionary

waiting for minds to claim them

a word that lies unclaimed too long

crumbles to dust

fades from the dictionary

and is lost in the sands of time

i keep my words on a shelf

there they gather meaning

from time to time i shake them out

you know the rest