Apologies

should i apologize for being?

I could wrap myself in shame

and the misuse of history

lower my gaze to the evil

inherent in the body of being

and abjure the nobility of my intent,

my own times recapitulating all

there are two sides to apology

but it will avail me nothing

i would do it, not for my sake

but for the sake of you, and the others

to give shape to the anger

that you might one day tame

my past lies thick on my skin

events like black oil

coating a luckless shorebird

i am awakened nightly by the call

of the torments i have caused

and been caused, never escaping destiny

i offer here no testimony

no automatic confession

my sins will remain silent

though they scream in my head

and all that i will say to you is

if i knew you once

i’m sorry