

*Erik Brockbank*

## **Hummingbirds**

In the morning  
I drove to the grocery store  
and all day  
I thought about the car  
parked next to me  
when I came out  
arms full of produce  
the sticker on the rear window  
said *God bless our troops,*  
*especially our snipers.*

It was no longer enough  
to go about my day  
feeding the cat  
watering the plants  
refilling the bird feeder  
looking out the window  
while I worked, hoping to see  
the flash of a hummingbird  
a fleeting green spark  
like the way we imagine  
all life begins.