



Photo: Dmitry Demidko

foreclosure

the bill collector showed up at sunset  
to serve notice  
stating what everyone already knew  
immeasurable damage, wasted lives, oceans of tears  
whole families of animals and plants terminated  
treasures destroyed. cities incinerated.  
anguish as the World had never known  
a loneliness lethal as despair  
war after war

it's a question of whether Earth can forgive us  
the debts he said  
he didn't need to re-iterate  
would we be willing to pay something up front he asked  
more than a simple show of good intentions  
and with no guarantee we'd see immediate results  
some bills go back to the colonial period  
others before that  
more recent ones are piling up