

## Understory

*by Mark Nepo*

I've been watching stars  
rely on the darkness they  
resist. And fish struggle with  
and against the current. And  
hawks glide faster when their  
wings don't move.

Still I keep retelling what  
happens till it comes out  
the way I want.

We try so hard to be the  
main character when it is  
our point of view that  
keeps us from the truth.

The sun has its story  
that no curtain can stop.

It's true. The only way beyond  
the self is through it. The only  
way to listen to what can never  
be said is to quiet our need  
to steer the plot.

When jarred by life, we might  
unravel the story we tell ourselves  
and discover the story we are in,  
the one that keeps telling us.



From *The Way Under the Way: The Place of True Meeting*