The Ox Forgotten, the Person Remaining

The dharma doesn’t have a second dharma: the ox served a temporary purpose.

By analogy: the snare and the rabbit are two different things.

To clarify: the fish trap and the fish have different qualities.

Like gold coming out of the ore,

Like the moon leaving the clouds,

One cool light already shone

Before time came into being.

Ox Forgotten

What was that all about? Alone now, the oxherd feels quite at home. On this path, one thing is not two things. When the rabbit is caught, the snare may be abandoned. When the fish is caught, why stand there holding the net? See: like gold drawn from dross, like the moon risen from clouds, this world has always given off a simple light.

Ox Forgotten

He could not have gotten home without that animal, but oh, the Ox has disappeared and the man sits by himself, content.

His reverie does not bear the red mark of solar time.

The rope and the whip lie idle under the thatched roof.