

## **revelation**

Joy ushers in healing  
is a radical emotion in  
a world that fights  
to put you in self-hatred mode.

self-care the weapon ever ready

i refuse to claw at myself and  
find my joy in  
unbound and non-descript  
places  
in ideas associations of word play and  
life images filtered through an  
artistic kaleidoscope lens

in the smiles of the familiar  
that birthed me  
and carried our dna through

i find my joy in comradeship with folk  
who struggle like me and  
push pretense aside knowing resilience  
answers real life questions

i find it most mornings  
when the Spirit moves me through song and  
i testify  
to myself and cry

it's in the invisible wings of dragonflies  
darting to and fro on invisible runways

i find joy by the river as i make up blues songs to sing to the trees

and as i was ambushed one morning  
by a flock of bluebirds descending upon and then  
taking flight from the luckiest of trees in the park  
they came to remind me it's just around the corner

then just today  
a red bird proudly appeared/ plopped down on a fence  
and i thought of my ancestors  
and smiled.