

Ordering Words

microscopic motes
color objects grey
manic specks fill the air
raving at disorder
i vacuum away madness
polish to a compulsive clean
superficial neatness
unable to tame brain entropy
depressive dust freed from closets
chase sanity into corners
mental cobwebs pull me down
into screaming rooms with no escape

I battle back with sleep
fight chaos with my pen

Found Poem

National Geographic, May 1991

One casualty
was a cow carrying
a four-month-old fetus
(left),
examined by scientists studying the elephant's
22-month gestation period.
Most culling teams spare elephants
old enough to survive without
their mothers
yet small enough to be moved to less populated areas
or to be sold
to game ranches, safari parks, and zoos.
When the shooting stops,
the elephants are butchered.
Hides, meat, and ivory are sold
to help support game management.
Culling, unlike poaching
and trophy hunting,
attempts to maintain the herd's
natural age and gender balance.
Still, critics emphasize the inevitable
loss of genetic diversity and the horror
of slaughtering great
and intelligent beings.