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## Cannon Bones

Richard Boada

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# Cannon Bones

Gray Mississippi spring spins each tree. Pollen curls from the wide-trunk oaks.  
Their yellow  
seeds fury along the muscular canopy of big-leaves, a matrix of flapping and  
levering. At  
once, I remember acorns pummeling the tool shed's tin roof. Each metallic  
spank croaking  
like the full-throated and spectacularly hungry frog. In this pasture I fasten the  
colt's  
saddle for my young daughter who would rather ride on the blanket than the  
brittle leather.  
Without knowing, she trusts her ligaments and the colt's to keep them locked  
and polled.  
I'm the hare running too fast, crisscrossing an avenue clogged with car traffic.  
But they're  
the gift, singular anatomies, cannon bones and fetlocks, phalanxes and skulls,  
orbiting this  
coliseum like champions.

## About Richard Boada

Richard Boada's chapbook *Archipelago Sinking* (Finishing Line Press 2011) has been nominated for the Mississippi Institute of Arts and Letters Poetry Award. His poems have appeared in *Crab Orchard Review*, *RHINO*, *Third Coast*, *Southern California Review* and *Rio Grande Review* among others. He teaches writing and environmental communications at Misericordia University.