

2000

## On Alicia's Birthday

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Strolling after lunch I saw  
a vulture sailing overhead  
while a leaf began to fall.

The same gusts which the vulture  
dizzied to such airy heights snatched  
the leaf from beaten stem. Sure

you feel tripped up, torn by time.  
We all stand in the wind all day.  
Not one to give advice, I'm

thinking you could spread your wings  
and soar across the drafts or descend  
golden, peacefully tumbling.

—Chris Million '02