

Ninth Commandment

Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor.

A lie is like a fingernail
screeching across a blackboard.
It jangles your mind,
perverts your heart,
and sickens your body.

To lie is to build
an ugly, frail structure
which to maintain will require
more and more deceit until,
when you no longer remember
the first lie that laid
its flimsy foundation,
the edifice must topple
and come crashing down
upon your head.

To lie is to slice yourself away
from the Eternal Source.
Each lie says,
"I am more important
than WHAT IS."
But tongues that lie
are tongues that taste
the dirt of doom,
for WHAT IS
cannot be altered a whit
by either false words
or false silence.

Those who speak truth
will prevail,
while liars will lie--
lie whimpering
in the cosmic gutters.