

Notes of an Observer

More to the point
would be an empty circle
lines in all directions
like a dynamo
hitched to a compass

so that all the trembling
and decision
might inscribe
what looks like rain
in hurricane or gale

appearing in all directions
at once
both toward and away
if one believed
it could be sorted.

I have heard it said
of the atom,
some smallest item
whose activity
can't be figured out

with precision
of absolutes,
something about movements –
appear and reappear
or sundering and join –

that it's baffling
even to those
known for their knowing
who invent depictions
like "chance" and "chaos"

to handle probabilities
what the hypothetical
circle, pretended to a point,
surrounded all the same,
might contain