

Black Box

After the fall, they wanted to know
what went wrong. They demanded
to hear voices in disagreement
and utter surprise. They most wanted to know
it couldn't happen again, to them.
This was only human. But what they heard
wasn't what they had wanted, and so
others were asked to listen
and make sense of it. After those others
couldn't explain what they had heard
they released it all to the public, hoping
someone might someday explain
what had happened. And when we all logged on
and listened in, we began to feel like
we were going somewhere together
in a cramped cabin at the command
of an experienced pilot. Somewhere,
a tape was rolling, recording, we hoped,
what could never be destroyed.