

## DEVILED

My dreams are cruel  
children. They taunt me.

I dream I'm telling a story  
the punch line of which  
will involve deviled eggs.

                  I'm saying  
some idiot  
asked me where they originated.

I found that funny  
or unfair.

Launched into this anecdote,  
this dream, this poem,  
I'm already worried. Now I see  
the pair I'm addressing  
have put their heads together,  
hatching something,  
over the crosswords.

## CHAIN CHAIN CHAIN

The argument from clean  
margins.

Get plausible!

Some feed off  
breakage,  
some off transposition.

Minute by minute.

Tread water  
with synonyms;

trade synonyms  
for water.

Rae Armantrout