

Kansas lilac *Syringa vulgaris*

earth's first plinth ark moonstruck
world whirled fiery rock throne
elemental hydrogen oxygen nitrogen carbon
sulphur sodium silicon potassium phosphorus

earth's second plinth evanescent depths
flicker over crevasse tilt camber
water liquidity mother of invention
division diversity driving for air

third plinth limbs lungs clamber
toehold from seadrift to drought
the long march of dinosaurs
a flash and they're gone

forth-ant appears a mighty mastoden
teeth develop in abounding bloodlust
tundra reflects an icy carapace
thenagain let there be light

earth's fifth plinth focuses faces
fellow-fallen find words grunted
canoe raft trireme cruiser spaceship
my what a time that took

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Ronald Johnson. *Ark: Beams*



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