

Beasts in the Earth

by Miriam Sagan

Beasts in the earth
that eat decay,
autumnal forest,
the rotting log,
devour the death
of others.

Slug or snail
slimed
the pure white cup
of fungal fruit.

You also
took a bite
went down
time's wormhole.

You thought it was
a brilliant red
eyelash mushroom
instead
an M&M
someone had dropped—
by mistake?
or like breadcrumbs

to mark
a path.

In every drop
of stream water
paramecium or hydra
hunting,
predator
of a tiny world
invisible to my eye.

That's why
I had to explain
by comparison
to the visible.