

RESPONSIBILITY

we threw it

up in the air
like a bone after eating
like a broken radio
like a lead slug

threw it aiming at the sun
slooshed it into the trees
so it would come down
in all directions

& everyone grabbing for it,
a man called Europe
then a man called Asia
then one called North America
& somewhere playing
men called South America
Australia
Antartica
& finally
a man called Africa
picking it up & playing it
like a drum
hiding it
like a dollar bill

gymnastics or aesthetics
watching it tumble

like a beat up soft ball

& waver

like a warped arrow

coming down on us
each time it went up

the ballgame
without pitcher or catcher

then

in one place
Joe & Whitey
Babe & Lou
Phil & Yogi
did the same thing

tossing

it

tossing

it

tossing

it

out in the open
where it can be defined
by its bounce

where it's

always up in the air
no pitcher or catcher
the ballgame floating
in dalliance
everyone responsible
only of wearing a uniform
standing in proper positions
& explaining why
the batter swings at nothing.