

For August and Enkidu

by Gary Hardaway

Hello, Enkidu,
my favorite black cat.
He is our only black cat
but doesn't need to know that.
Even among the thousands of black cats
in the world, though, he would nonetheless
be my favorite with those impurities of light brown tufts
that sprout here and there amid the dusty looking black that doesn't
glisten in the sunlight like the panther's almost blue-black coat and
that
of August, my best friend from college's sleek and friendly black cat
surely dead but well remembered now after all these years.

