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## Part and Counterpart in NC

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## Part and Counterpart in NC

What does the sloping seagull,  
with oblong body rotating  
to catch the flow of air  
drifting high on wind gusts,  
gliding with still wings like a harmony  
over a slim bar, suddenly slipping down  
piercing the crinkling suit of the water's surface  
searching the surf and then landing,  
disenchanted hushed sands for footprints,  
dodging and teetering in stutter steps  
pushing with reed thin, stalk like legs,  
rocking and twisting their grayed necks  
for beady sight, have to do with

the slow drifting camber of a woman's  
reluctant arching, the drowsy settling  
of knees and back into soft right angles  
the rotating torso, the rocking hips  
or the delicate twist of piano dream  
fingers that follows,  
the easing of breath from mouth  
to lung, oxygen rushing  
along the blood stream,  
or the white limbering of vocal chord  
moans attesting to the warmth of knotted sheets  
or sleep, the simplest of motions,  
as it winds its way around the waist and she slips,  
drifting under its surface?

Probably nothing— but when watched  
the feeling infused is the undulation  
of airborne stillness, dancing, the recurring  
ebb and flood, the mimicry of waves  
being pulled from water, the same oscillating,  
fluttering pulse.

| *DB Ross*