

## FIERCE

I like the word, fierce –  
the way it aligns itself with  
nakedness and solitude:  
a fierce nakedness ...  
a fierce solitude ...  
And I like the way it holds  
the word, fire.

I like the word, fire –  
the way it ignites  
the cutting edge of poetry  
refusing to be nothing less than  
a fiery edge ...  
a fiery tongue ...  
And I like the way it is linked  
to the word, wildness.

I like the word, wild –  
how it weaves its way  
between yes and no,  
how it announces itself as  
a wild anger ...  
a wild joy ...  
And I like the way it nurtures  
the word, fierce.

I like the word, fierce ...

Ian McCallum