

Stone

Opaque prism
Alpha of the universe
Molten birth cooling to caul, fragmented
Into fertile dust

Petrified roots of oak, diamond-hard,
Probe mantle-folded bog to be drawn down, down,
Back to the center of origin and eternity
The ultimate atom of stone
High-cross and head-stone: granite coaxing energy

From the cosmos, gifting those attuned to receive
And accept with second sight and ancient memories.
Stone caressed by the sea to silken sand
Fossil of fish, touch-stone of schist
Lintel, hearth and stepping-stones
Quartz glittering in the pocket of a child
Hallowed font and hallowed quern
Pebble on the tongue of the dead.
Stone to mark tombs and the passage of dreams

Dana Wynter
Glenmacnass, 1984