

DEWITT CLINTON

Kansas Iowa Ohio

Ghosts fly north in Iowa
Anytime they want. Yet we
Must pass through that part of the state.
Even if we do drive
With the sun it will be
Dangerous and really insane. But you will
Say something about friends
So that we can hold out maybe
One day, one night, there. The hard
Drive into Ohio will be all
We can possibly do the second day.
We will cross many unpronounceable
Rivers and we will pretend
To know something about salt
And how it is formed in caves
Hundreds of miles back in Kansas.
You plan a history book so we
Will know tribal migrations,
New dialects. We need, also, to know
How landmarks near highways are noted.
With those two things, we can enter
Ohio with this deep terrific grin.