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Want List

William Stafford

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Want List*

William Stafford

Bring me the Cascades. Bring that bend
by The Dalles on the Columbia. Over Sherars
Bridge show me the salmon. Put some
sage in the car when we drive to Burns.

When the snows begin, clean off
the windshield with a pine branch
and be sure to carry a thermos of coffee.
Let the far trees bow low.

Then the sound, the long sigh the wind
makes when it passes through leaves.
You stand there waiting for something.
Then a tree nearby says, "Yes."

* From *THE LONG SIGH THE WINDS MAKES* (Adrienne Lee Press 1991);
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