

**A BIRTHDAY CARD FOR JOHN CAGE ON HIS 100TH**

a sudden rustling –  
the ailanthus drops a leaf  
just before sunrise

tiny prayer flags lift  
in the slightest passing breeze –  
late summer crickets

what's this soft tapping?  
downy woodpecker testing  
October cornstalk

is it a bird's call?  
someone walking in the dark  
with one squeaky shoe

**by David P. Miller © 2012**

From his OPP micro-chapbook, [Probably Not Haiku](#)