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Along Oatka Creek Road

dragonflies mating
at first it looks painful
as if one's beating the other
he fights for position
she dallies for an hour
once he's struck her he finds
paired wings fan in pairs
his blue body arches
her brown wings blur
all along the creekside
a similar song

is that how we are
beautiful and ridiculous
like cats warring in love
a scripted hostility
with no clear motive
a different way of wanting
union in strife
repeating the one law
out of control
everything hums