

...july 26, 1986...

nine children in your family –
six in mine –
adding and subtracting
increasing and dividing
all the reasons that combine
to weave and undermine
the creation
of the people that we are –

both of us stand here
talking the fourth-floor lounge
of vancouver's
gallery of art –
i am thirty-three –
you are thirty-nine –
i come from toronto –
you come from new york –

you've been to vietnam –
i've been to papua –
you compete where i retreat –
i endure where you withdraw –
how strange to think
that in our differences
we are so similar
and still so different
in our similarities.

