

#4 The modulus of rupture

This is a difficult calculus
To determine the ratio of stress
To the integrity of the mind.
An appropriate structure,
One fit to live within,
One affording a modicum of safety
from the elements,
Dependable shelter.
The elasticity of the mind has its limit
And a proper mathematics
Must consider the magnitude of the forces,
Their duration,
change over time,
The directionality of pressure,
And their source.
The resulting volume
Will alter the rigidity of the structure
And determine which forms
Are adaptive
Or destructive.
Every defense an additional weakness
Every exposure an avenue for escape