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## 1985 THE BOOK OF SAND

*The fear of infinity is a form of myopia that destroys the possibility of seeing the actual infinite, even though it in its highest form has created and sustains us, and in its secondary transfinite forms occurs all around us and even inhabits our minds.*

—Georg Cantor

—Yes, Principal, I have ventured out of bounds.  
I twisted the swing until the steel chain broke  
and the globe has come unscrewed  
on account of my wandering hands.

I was only playing kickball when  
I found the patch of five-leaf clovers  
and traced their origin from center field  
to the drainage pipe at the edge of the cafeteria.

We are forever climbing, as Principal  
of Gainfield Elementary you should know  
the limits of the convoluted metal bars,  
the diminishing span of the blacktop:

First the hyacinths, the broken tulips,  
then the forsythia's yellow glow,  
the hole razored in the chain-link fence  
and the miles of ragweed to mow and mow—