THE BEAUTIFUL ASPEN
FRAMES THE YUKON RIVER
EVERYTHING IS PEACEFUL
UNTIL ANIMALS COME TO SHARE
SOME STAND AT AWE
BEFORE THEY DIP THEIR DELICATE HEADS
ESPECIALLY THE SHY DEER
THEY ARE NOT SO ENTHRALLED
AT MAN SO NEAR
PERHAPS GOD MADE HIM AWARE
THAT MANS INTENTIONS
ARE NOT SO TENDER
AS THOSE THAT DRINK THE SHARE

\_ James Collins