

Florida Impressions
Everglade Impression, FNCC, June 21

*Ripples dimpling this peaceful pond
suggest the breath of something deep,
like thoughts bubbling to the surface which
perfectly reflects the sky, the clouds,
a rush of rain, the sizzle of sawgrass shocked
by white lightning and then the heat descends
on alligators, egrets, herons, insect friends,
everything searching for food. At night
fat frogs the size of dogs croak cheerfully
among the lily pads flicking their tongues,
swallowing whatever their taste buds touch,
transforming living matter into song
to serenade the full white moon. Meanwhile,
beneath the pond, a curious lungfish crawls
out of the water onto the land, its eyes wide
with wonder and delight, following
a higher path evolving toward light.*

— Terry M. Walker, Santa Cruz, Calif.