POWER LAWS

'Things that obey power laws become less likely with increasing size according to a characteristic formula.'

World Science

And so dictators over thirty foot tall are rare,
Statues of, less so, but then they obey no laws
Unless the laws of birds and salt and wind
Are laws but I know the sparrow carried none,
No laws on its final journey to what was
Remembered by the city, so large that any laws
There had so tired themselves that their only
Chance for survival was to multiply quickly,
To turn into five times themselves or a hundred,
To be more than the winds passing through
Or the salt grains if counting continues with
The flip of each passing hour or day, but then
The city's laws became so numerous, their
Number so large, that they are all the time more
And more unlikely, more unbelievable, like
A cement foot taking a step or a general sleeping
Soundly, dreamless on retreat with a brow
Smoothed by breeze and the shush of birdwing,
Cheeks streaked black with salt's tears as
Around cities crumble according to the smallest
Law, the law of obedience to itself which is found
Untroubled at the core of all that exists and
Which becomes no more or less likely regardless
Of existence, despite dictators and their statues,
Despite the one bird that disobeyed the winds.