## The Prairie Light Review

Volume 32 Number 2 Article 29

4-1-2011

## Waves

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## Recommended Citation

Flaherty, John J. (2011) "Waves," *The Prairie Light Review*: Vol. 32: No. 2, Article 29. Available at: http://dc.cod.edu/plr/vol32/iss2/29

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## John J. Flaherty

While standing alone on the barren beach

From side to side as far as I can see,
bubbly, brackish, breaking waves roll in
and spray, night and day, pours onto this shore

In ancient oceans deep, old Poseidon

breathed in the sea and formed these entities

Small at birth, destined to grow, 'though slow

And so until they approach this shore

Hidden well by the rolling, swelling sea

Nothing seen save a teasing flash of white

Then, each breaking in a great rush, they come

A rolling, roaring, moving waterfall

These greenish, growing walls with frenzy come

Then joyfully leap upon the sand and
shatter the air with a thunderous roar

And as they touch the shore, they live no more