

MERRILL GILFILLAN

KNOWN WORLD

A flight, or t-bone fleet—

tucket tegg tutoyer.

T for Tucumcari,
Comanche word encoded
free as a jailbird to come and go
sub rosa.

Tukanukaru: to lie in wait—
for something.

Sub-wild-prairie-rosa.

To lie in wait and wait
and wait.

BONESET, AND WASSAIL

Wassail for the wahoo,
for the maples with sweetmeats in their leaves.

Wassail to the willows half yellow half yellow green.

Wassail, those chestnut castanets
enough to make a dead wren sing.

Wassail to the orchards down close
to the rivers along in the fall of the year.

Wassail to the world back over your shoulder there.