Assessing cognitive spare capacity as a measure of listening effort using the Auditory Inference Span Test

Niklas Rönnberg

The man with the Hearing Aid

A man takes out his hearing aid and falls asleep, his good ear deep in the pillow. Thousands of bats fly out of the other ear. All night they flutter and dive through laughter, catching the punch lines, their ears all blood and velvet. At dawn they return. The weary squeaks make the old stone cavern ring with gibberish. As the man awakens, the last of the bats folds into sleep. His ear is thick with fur and silence.

Ted Kooser