Christmas in Utah

Leslie Norris

In barns turned from the wind The quarter-horses
Twitch their laundered blankets.
Three Steller's jays,
Crests sharp as ice,
Bejewel the pine tree.
Rough cold out of Idaho
Bundles irrational tumbleweed
The length of Main Street.

Higher than snowpeaks,
Shriller than the frost,
A brazen angel blows his silent trumpet.

LESLIE NORRIS, recognized as an outstanding British poet and possibly the foremost poet from Wales, is currently professor of English and poet in residence at Brigham Young University. His latest collection is Selected Poems (Bridgend, Wales: Poetry Wales Press, 1986).