

Chella Courington

how to teach grammar
for denis johnson

i don't care one whit about commas
rarely read an essay I can't follow
due to a run-on sentence
or is it run-away

words colliding in white space
f r a g m e n t s
as if anything comes out whole
for example this morning

race to committee on faculty
development leave early
for noon class gulp peach smoothie
eight live active cultures

incomplete sentences
turned upside down slapped
on the ass nothing intact since
shoved into sound bites

to hell with grammar
david sleeps in the parking garage
at perdido & salsipuedes
sober most days last thursday

he saw a boy fifteen his son's age
shot anna's a single mom
clean six months january
her daughter starts second grade

ready to write i yell turning to the board
write naked write from exile write in blood