

With all its gaze the animal sees openness

With all its gaze the animal
sees openness. Only our eyes are
as if reversed, set like traps
all around its free forthgoing.
What is outside, we know from the face
of the animal only; for we turn even the
youngest child
around and force it to see all forms
backwards, not the openness
so deep in the beast's gaze. Free from death.

Ursula LeGuin, 1987:191

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