

# TRANSUBSTANTIATION

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PHILIP BYRNE

I envy the steadfast belief of ants  
hauling their dead like loggers  
dragging a felled tree.

There is no funeral procession  
in their need to bring to the hive  
the fallen, for what reward such loyalty?

Stripped down to scrap, cannibalistic  
sustenance, ritual glorification—  
Eat this body and drink this blood

And you shall live on.