

**#8 bison eyes**

**Painting: Resilience Artist: Cindy Baron  
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I see your faces  
peering above  
a hill's crest  
native grasses parted by  
black sticks  
that can roar  
and crack  
like sky

I watch  
blue eyes  
hairless skin  
a small herd  
of you rise  
on hind legs

animals unprepared  
for fall winds  
that draw clouds  
around my brown nose  
and shaggy coat  
you covet

I've seen you  
fell shade trees

piling trunks  
one atop another  
scarring meadows  
with dead wood

your front legs  
don't reach the ground  
how do you paw  
teetering on one leg  
when a youngster  
lowers horns  
in challenge?

between my eyes  
your sticks settle  
I jerk to the right  
twisted torso leaps  
and runs

something stings  
my rump  
dirt spews  
between us  
for now  
until I see you  
again