Photograph of a bird in song

His roosting songfulness -
The whisper of his wing music -
I am songless at his far-carrying
flight song.

Rose-breasted, large-eyed,
he gives a call not heard
at any other time,
beginning with a single, begging note,

a subsong of about seven notes,
then turns away his head,
holding up his beak a day's length
to clouds at different levels in the foliage.

Medbh McGuckian

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