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Response is situated in the *relational*,
To be able to respond to another,
To hear the other call and to answer.

Call ↔ *Response*

To respond is to turn toward the face of another —
To pause, to turn, to listen.

First,
listen.

Listen,

*The magpies are gathered around the body of their dead kin —
they press their beaks to broken bones, then turn their faces to the sky, and howl.*

To respond is to turn toward the face of another,
To pause, to turn, to look.

First,
look.

Look,

*The turkey vulture is on the side of the road — eating the broken body, she performs the
final rites, she cleanses the body, she transforms death into compost, the stuff of life.*

To respond is to turn toward the face of another,
To stop, to turn, to
Bear witness.

First,
Bear witness.

Come,

Let us listen.

Come,

Let us look.

Come,

Let us bear witness.

Come,

Let us hear the magpies,

let us watch the turkey vulture,

let us turn our faces toward the broken body.

Come,

Let us respond.

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