

A Singular Zoo

By Dennis Payton Knight

Our singular menagerie is not in a park, a circus or a parade,
But the strangest characters from the National Zoo,
Mashed up into a single specimen on two legs.
Our singular zoo has the vanity of a peacock
And the brain of a domesticated turkey.
It has the music of a crow and the charisma of a circling buzzard,
The attention span of a goldfish and the faithfulness of a caned toad;
It listens like an earless salamander and talks like a magpie.
It has the gracefulness of a hippo, the graciousness of a shrew,
The empathy of a rhinoceros, and the
Temper of a crocodile in salt water.
It is as loyal as a cobra, as trustworthy as a weasel,
And as versatile as a three-toed sloth.
Our latest national curiosity is a
Singular menagerie,
Strutting on two legs,
With a necktie.