Freedom

By: William Stafford

 Freedom is not following a river.

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 though, if you want to.

 It is deciding now by what happens now.

 It is knowing that luck makes a difference.

 No leader is free; no follower is free--

 the rest of us can often be free.

 Most of the world are living by

 creeds too odd, chancy, and habit-forming

 to be worth arguing about by reason.

 If you are oppressed, wake up about

 four in the morning; most places

 you can usually be free some of the time

 if you wake up before other people.