



50
Preludes
&
Fugues



Poetry by
Jnana Hodson

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JNANA HODSON

50 PRELUDES

&

FUGUES



1/

how light the air
before birds awaken



sunrise more lurid in the absence of
little waves of cool air ripple over me
before birds awaken, knowing
they won't keep expectations no matter
how light the air of unfamiliar terrain
beyond green sunrise more lurid
in the absence *they know*
they won't mind unfamiliar
terrain beyond little waves of cool
air rippling over my expected greenery
before birds awaken how light
the air sunrise more lurid in the absence
of their knowing to conform to unfamiliar
green terrain deliciously promising
little waves of cool rippling air before sunrise
birds awaken more lurid without expectations
of light air they know they won't keep
beyond the unfamiliar terrain little waves
of cool air rippling over an expectation of green
birds awaking delicious promises

2/

one part of the body
in the corners of a quilt



lingering above one part of the body the white rose
could be an eight-pointed star over kohl-obscured
eyes *the pleasure of your company* an aromatic
orange peeled as a starry flower in the corners
of a quilt in a viscous glaze a floppy petal star
for a forehead lingering over one part of the body
the pleasure of your company in viscous glaze
the white rose could be an eight-pointed star
an aromatic orange peeled as a starry flower
a floppy petal star for a forehead above
kohl-obscured eyes in the corners of a quilt lingering
over one part of the body *the pleasure
of your company* in viscous glaze a floppy petal
star for a forehead a view forever from the bluest
ocean the white rose could be an eight-pointed
star over kohl-obscured eyes lingering over one part
of the body an aromatic orange peeled as
a starry flower in the corners of a quilt *the
pleasure of your company* in viscous glaze
the white rose could be an eight-pointed star
an aromatic orange peeled as a starry flower
over kohl-obscured eyes in the corners of a quilt
a view forever from the bluest ocean

3/

a schematic diagram of
stylish figures



two men in hats and
sunglasses dancing in suits each block
a skyscraper out & about on a street
leading to a long suspension bridge
the metallic glory of stylish figures on subway
cars a schematic diagram of something
the Chrysler Tower in a purple sky two
men in hats and sunglasses dancing in
suits on a street leading to a long
suspension bridge a schematic diagram
of something each block, a skyscraper
the metallic glory of the Chrysler Tower in
a purple sky out & about stylish figures
on subway cars two men in hats and sunglasses
dancing in suits on a street leading
to a long suspension bridge a schematic
diagram of something the Chrysler Tower
in a purple sky *“our Lord has a big zoo”*
each block, a skyscraper out & about two men
in hats and sunglasses dancing in suits the metallic
glory of stylish figures on subway cars on a street
leading to a long suspension bridge a schematic
diagram of something each block, a skyscraper

the metallic glory of the Chrysler Tower in a purple
sky out & about stylish figures on subway cars
“our Lord has a big zoo”

4/

an open eyeball
at the core



of sailing the nautilus shell
sliced open twisting threads
of bubbling water at the core
of the spiral he holds against
red reveals the rotary motion
there's an open eyeball a monk
fondles his prayer beads of sailing
at the core of the spiral he holds there
is an open eyeball in the nautilus
shell sliced open against red
a monk fondles prayer beads
twisting threads of bubbling
water reveals the rotary motion of sailing
at the core of the spiral he holds there's
an open eyeball a monk fondles
his prayer beads *that blinding whiteness
of flames* the nautilus shell sliced open
twisting threads of bubbling water
of sailing against red reveals
the rotary motion at the core
of the spiral he holds there's an open
eyeball the nautilus shell sliced open
against red a monk fondles his prayer

beads twisting threads of bubbling water
reveals the rotary motion
that blinding whiteness of flames

5/

sparrows, transcribed



rare green butterflies on ivory letters held open with pens
the skillful brown Prelude to Love, the white calyx and
four artistic envelopes folding penmanship with flourishes
the language of sparrows, transcribed into ornate scribbles
rare green butterflies on ivory letters Prelude to Love
the white calyx and penmanship with flourishes held
open with pens four artistic envelopes the language
of sparrows, transcribed into ornate scribbles the skillful
brown folding rare green butterflies on ivory letters
Prelude to Love, the white calyx and penmanship
with flourishes the language of sparrows, transcribed
into ornate scribbles *I am indeed lonely and delighted*
held open with pens the skillful brown and rare green
butterflies on ivory letters four artistic envelopes
folding Prelude to Love, the white calyx and
penmanship with flourishes held open with pens
four artistic envelopes the language of sparrows
transcribed into ornate scribbles the skillful brown
unfolding, *I am indeed lonely and delighted*

6/

the repeated
warming



I'm missing you? the repetition of
are you missing me as intensely as saturation
warming in what has pleased me
frequencies blue, recorded *I'm missing you?*
saturation frequencies the repetition of
warming in blue, recorded *are you*
missing me as intensely as what has pleased me
I'm missing you? saturation frequencies
blue, recorded Which is, greatly
the repetition of *are you*
missing me as intensely as
I'm missing you? warming in
what has pleased me saturation
frequencies the repetition of
warming in blue, recorded *are you missing me*
as intensely as what has pleased me
Which is, greatly

7/

a smiling silver mask
with black feathers



a spray of blue on one cheek flowing
with black feathers at the tip of a wing
nothing of that bruise a box camera holding
a smiling silver mask *you inflicted yesterday*
a full moon a spray of blue
on one cheek *nothing of that bruise*
you inflicted yesterday flowing with black
feathers a box camera holding a full moon
at the tip of a wing a smiling silver mask
a spray of blue on one cheek *nothing*
of that bruise you inflicted yesterday
a full moon “please ring bell and face
camera” flowing with black feathers at the tip
of a wing a spray of blue on one cheek
a box camera holding a smiling silver mask
nothing of that bruise you inflicted yesterday
flowing with black feathers
a box camera holding a full moon
at the tip of a wing a smiling silver mask
“please ring bell and face camera”

8/

candlelight reflected
on dull glaze



seemingly random binary digits
got another busy signal: I love you
under a sprig of apricot candlelight
reflected on dull glaze placed atop
a blue 8 and blue R I love you,
I love you, I love you etc. *for the other
shoe to drop* blossoms seemingly random
binary digits candlelight reflected on dull glaze
for the other shoe to drop got another
busy signal: I love you placed atop a blue 8
and blue R blossoms under a sprig of apricot
I love you, I love you, I love you etc. seemingly
random binary digits candlelight reflected
on dull glaze *for the other shoe to drop*
blossoms *rather than trembling*
got another busy signal: I love you
under a sprig of apricot seemingly random
binary digits placed atop a blue 8 and blue R
I love you, I love you, I love you etc. candlelight
reflected on dull glaze *for the other shoe to drop*
got another busy signal: I love you
placed atop a blue 8 and blue R
blossoms seemingly random binary digits

I love you, I love you, I love you etc.
rather than trembling

9/

bare leg
marked with diamonds



the rage has been earned considering
red dancers atop blowing white cloth
itself a bed black figures dance on
three naked figures, seated on each other
the Japanese dancer on a black stage draped
in red cloth his bare leg marked with diamonds
a red background where *the rage has been earned*
black figures dance on his bare leg marked
with diamonds red dancers atop blowing white
and three naked figures, seated on each other
the red background itself a bed the Japanese dancer
on a black stage draped in red cloth claiming *the rage*
has been earned black figures dance on his bare leg
marked with diamonds a red background
in the thinker's pose red dancers atop blowing white
fabric itself a bed *the rage has been earned* three naked
figures seated on each other, the Japanese dancer on
a black stage is draped in red cloth black figures
dance on his bare leg marked with diamonds
red dancers atop blowing white cloth
three naked figures, seated on each other
a red background itself a bed the Japanese dancer
on a black stage is draped in red cloth

in the thinker's pose

wings beating
between a body of a single pearl



*moved about so much and moved on a woman
at a typewriter straddling an open window between
a body of a single pearl earlier parts of a person's life
when one has a builder of monuments the difficulty
of gathering details from a mussel shell opened
as wings beating drawn by two draft horses moved
about so much ... and moved on earlier parts
of a person's life when one has a mussel shell
opened as wings beating a woman at a typewriter
straddling an open window a builder of monuments
drawn by two draft horses between a body of a single pearl
the difficulty of gathering details from moving about so
much ...*

*and moved on earlier parts of a person's life when one has
a mussel shell opened as wings drawn by two draft horses
beating two thumbs glued together at the tip a woman
at a typewriter straddling an open window between a body
of a single pearl moved about so much ... and moved on
a builder of monuments the difficulty of gathering details
from earlier parts of a person's life when one has a mussel
shell opened as wings beating a woman at a typewriter
straddling*

an open window a builder of monuments drawn by two
draft

horses between a body of a single pearl *the difficulty*
gathering details from two thumbs glued together at the tip

under a waterfall's rainbow



the scattershots are scattering a diamond with wings
 under a waterfall's rainbow two children
 and a parent emerge midday along a river after
 a mountain stream cascades in steps in the pool
 the large-leafed marsh marigold and a tree reflected
 in water *the scattershots are scattering*
 two children and a parent emerge
 in the pool, the large-leafed marsh marigold
 a diamond with wings midday along a river after
 tree reflected in water under a waterfall's rainbow
 a mountain stream cascades in steps *the scattershots*
are scattering two children and a parent emerge in the pool
 the large-leafed marsh marigold tree reflected
 in water a spring snowfall a diamond with wings
 under a waterfall's rainbow *the scattershots are scattering*
 midday along a river after a mountain stream cascades in
 steps
 two children and a parent emerge in the pool, the large-
 leafed
 marsh marigold a diamond with wings midday along a river
 after tree reflected in water under a waterfall's rainbow
 a mountain stream cascades in steps after a spring snowfall

red winter berries and a female cardinal



between brambles winter birch rise
 in front of a snowy mountain forest
the snowstorm is obligingly holding off till Monday
 indoors, on a winter afternoon
 God, the sun feels good! here
 the muddy winter streams the red winter berries
 and a female cardinal between brambles *the snowstorm*
is obligingly holding off till Monday here, the muddy
 winter streams and birch rise while from indoors, on a
 winter
 afternoon the red winter berries and a female cardinal
 in front of a snowy mountain forest God, the sun
 feels good! between brambles *the snowstorm is obligingly*
holding off till Monday here, the muddy winter streams
 the red winter berries and a female cardinal
 coupons and seed packets winter birch rise
 in front of a snowy mountain forest
 between brambles indoors, on a winter afternoon
 God, the sun feels good! *the snowstorm is*
obligingly holding off till Monday here, the muddy
 winter streams winter birch rise indoors, on a winter
 afternoon
 the red winter berries and a female cardinal
 in front of a snowy mountain forest God, the sun

feels good! coupons and seed packets

in braids and a woolly scarf



playing happily with lips and nose painted red
 a diapered child holds deer antlers over his head
 with a red bar over his eyebrows a bearded man
 exhales flames toward his ancestors
 a black-haired mother trundles another toddler
 while an owl floats on a perfume bottle
 while another in braids and a woolly scarf *has been playing*
happily
 with red bar over his eyebrows an owl floats on a perfume
 bottle
 with lips and nose painted red a bearded man exhales
 flames
 toward his ancestors in braids and a woolly scarf
 another diapered child holds deer antlers over his head
 a black-haired mother trundles another toddler *playing*
happily
 a red bar over his eyebrows an owl floats on a perfume
 bottle
 another in braids and a woolly scarf a red shawl around her
 back
 with lips and nose painted red a diapered child holds deer
 antlers
 over his head *he has been playing happily* as a bearded man
 exhales flames toward his ancestors

a black-haired mother trundles another toddler in
a red bar over her eyebrows an owl floats on a perfume
bottle
with lips and nose painted red a bearded man exhales
flames toward his ancestors another in braids and a woolly
scarf
a diapered child holds deer antlers over his head
a black-haired mother trundles another toddler in
a red shawl around her back

14/

three thirty-three



coastal Maine scenes, including
lions asleep as the tawny hills next
to the ocean at sunset in early
spring of cracked-shell globes
painted coastal Maine lions asleep
as the tawny hills next to the ocean
of sunset's cracked-shell globe
in early spring painted coastal
Maine scenes, including lions
asleep as the tawny hills next to ocean
in sunset cracked-shell globe paints

three black horses run *elusive actions*
such as solitaire on the roadway
three gorillas nibble at a beached boat
in early spring a right-turn arrow
three on the roadway in early spring
beach a boat as black horses run
three right-turns dart *elusively*
their response as solitary as gorillas
nibbling at three a.m. on the roadway
with a beached boat as a right-turn arrow
in the surf where black horses run
elusive coursing unattended

three in early spring, three spring early
on the roadway, in a beached boat
three black horses run a right-turn arrow
three elusively turning away
three gorillas nibbling in the surf

15/

but the floor is
actually a door



more than once she's not yet thunderclouds
slamming a door actually *is clear*
but the floor has loomed more than once

without the door *but the floor* she's not yet actually
looming thunderclouds slammed into
clarity more than once it's not the doorway

but the floor that's looming
though she's not yet thunderclouds
to slam more than once

actually, the *clear* door *but not the floor*
where she's actually looming
while thunderclouds slam *clear* though
more than once

16/

a large cup of medicinal caffeine
on a mildewed stone bench
with a jade green mandala



jade green fallen
leaves mandala with
yellow fish yet to be
blessed jade green
fallen leaf mandala
with yellow fish yet
to bless jade green fallen
leaves mandala with yellow
fish yet to be blessed



the air is stifling deep blue ginko leaf
corners on mildewed *medicinal caffeine*
a stone bench school with a thunderstorm
and the air is stifling and mildewed
on a school of deep blue *medicinal caffeine*
with a thunderstorm and ginko leaf corners
the stone bench in stifling air on a mildewed
school of with a thunderstorm and *a large cup*
of deep blue ginko leaf corners air stifling
medicinal caffeine on a stone bench on a mildewed

school of deep blue *medicinal caffeine* with
a thunderstorm and ginko leaf corners
the stone bench, *a large cup*

17/

Monet's ultimate lily becoming
a potted plant painted by Matisse

* * *

Monet's ultimate lily
through the mad, mad swirls
a spiraling galaxy

a tangle of blonde hair
encircling Monet's ultimate

lily through the mad, mad

swirls a spiraling galaxy
a tangle of blonde hair encircling
Monet's ultimate lily

through the mad, mad swirls
a spiraling galaxy a tangle
of blonde hair encircles

*so I didn't think we would
wake up in time becoming
by Matisse a vase of flowers and
a spinning wheel peacock
flitting in an embroidered T*

a potted plant so *I didn't think
we would wake in time beside
a vase of flowers embroidered
in a T becoming as a spinning
wheel and a potted plant by Matisse*

so a peacock flitting *I didn't think we
would wake up in time in a vase
of flowers or with an embroidered T potted
plant painted becoming Matisse I didn't
think we would wake up in time*

a spinning a wheel peacock or flitting
vase of flowers in an embroidered
T so becoming a spinning potted plant
so wheeling by Matisse a peacock
so flittingly painted

18/

a yearling
the shape of cirrus clouds
getting hungry



the shape of cirrus clouds in a line
getting hungry sand cranes superimposed
on the glen's ruddy neck flank of flight
a Holstein yearling in numerals

some sequence the shape of cirrus clouds
in a line on the glen of numerals *getting hungry*
a ruddy neck flank sequence with sand cranes
superimposing flight on a Holstein yearling the shape

of cirrus clouds in a line on the glen of numerals
a sequenced *time for dinner*
getting hungry with sand cranes superimposing
the shape of cirrus clouds in a line of ruddy neck flanks

of flight a Holstein yearling on the glen
of numerals *gets hungry and* ruddy necked
flanking a sequence sand cranes superimposed on flight
with a Holstein yearling in *time for dinner*

* * *

under a brown hill along a waterway
multicolor farmhouses topped
by a white cross under a brown hill along
a waterway multicolor
farmhouses topped by a white cross
between mountains under a brown hill
along a waterway multicolor farmhouses
topped by a white cross between mountains

19/

square
starry
ripples



windjammer, fully craggy, red-mottled
coasting along coppery grass, the skipper's toucan
squawks with blue-starred *ripples in the fabric*

squared and full of business, the wind
in full sail along a craggy red-mottled coast
with coppery grass, a toucan against blue stars
skippers

ripples in the fabric no small business
jamming the skipper's sails full and craggy
past the red-mottled coast with coppery grass

with stars coasting
the red toucan *ripples the fabric*
toward a downtown square

in full sail windjammer against blue stars *in the fabric*
a toucan with coppery grass
a craggy red-mottled coast
a downtown square in full sail

in the fabric of a craggy red-mottled coast windjammer
a toucan, square against blue stars with coppery
grass in full sail *in the fabric*

coasting from one downtown to another craggy
red-mottled square *ripples*
windjammer against blue stars
in full sail

20/

a liturgy
with numbers and astrological signs
scarred across her chest



an Orthodox priest with scarred sutures across his chest
beside a hospital bed (in bib overalls) drapes a liturgy
all the while
a young woman, palm to her headband and eye patch,
arm over a cow's neck, numbers the astrological signs

priest scarred
chest woman in a ()
arm over a cow

hospital palm
numbers signs

in overalls a liturgy
eye a patch

Orthodox sutures across his chest
a young woman, arm over a cow's neck
numbers and astrological signs

at least the cramps have faded

a hospital bed
bib overalls, a liturgy
an Orthodox priest
with scarred sutures across her chest
palm marked
headband and eye patch
a young woman with an arm
over a cow's neck beside, her palm marked

with signs
the cramps have faded

yes,

the cramps have faded a liturgy beside a hospital bed
in overalls, an arm over a cow's neck
a young man in a headband marked with numbers
and faded astrological signs sees *at last the cramps have*
a liturgy an Orthodox priest beside a hospital bed
recites in bib overalls, his arm draped over a cow-
necked young man in a headband and eye patch
his palm marked with numbers and astrological signs
sees *at least the cramps have faded the liturgy*
of an Orthodox priest reciting beside a hospital bed
in bib overalls, his arm over a young man in a headband
and patched numbers and astrological signs eyeing
a cow beside a hospital bed, the bibbed overalls cramped
with Orthodox numbers and signs, the priest, fading

21/

stormy lies
in the eye socket
twisted in the morning

yet no one is in sight



with the gabby sunrise lipstick of two desiccated
mountains
ringing a gardenia in the eye socket, a bell of twisted leaves
with an apprehension blown across sandstone, displacing

the lurking ambush of deceit and death yet no one is in
sight
with the lipstick blazing from two desiccated bells she rings
the flowering mountain in the eye socket

with the trunk rising without leaves before gullies
the sandstone affair of death lies upon two desiccated
mountains
with a bell to ring in the flowering the eye socket

yet no one in sight twisted the trunk rising without leaves
before the sandstone gullies *the party of death and lies*
forgets
the flower is not the color of heroin or cocaine brushing
rouge

on cerise lips sliced against gray stone and sanded poppies
with the Victorian fixation (viz. Celia Thaxter) such
poppies
the terror of flowers with their allure as the stormy bees
blossom

with inky morning glories, blue sky desert, mottled oak
in dun ripples rows of poppies under the butte no one in
sight
to forget the color poppies, the Victorian fixation (viz. Celia
Thaxter)

the blue desert heroin and cocaine brushing lips with terror
with the flowers, with the allure of gabby bees or mottled
oak
in dun ripples rows of poppies under the butte cerise

sliced against gray stone and sand stormy blossoms inky
morning
the glory glories, forgetfully as a flower not the color
not the Victorian fixation or blue mottled sky rippling



in dun rows under the butte, Red Poppy and heroin
cocaine brushing rouge on lips cerise sliced against gray
stone
and sand forgetting the flower not the color or terror

of their allure with stormy morning glories or inky poppies
the Victorian Celia Thaxter with her blue North Atlantic
island
no desert sky, no heroin, no cocaine brushing rouge on lips

the ripping allure of bees in mottled oak or rows of
poppies
under the butte cerise sliced against gray stone and
everlasting
sand, the stormy blossoms, the inky morning glories

a bit after five and black clouds are rolling in



Rothko as blocks of fuming color
Rothko in fuming reds
Rothko's Orange and Lilac Over Ivory

Rothko's Blue, Yellow, Green on Red – mostly yellow
as blocks of fuming Blue, Yellow, Green on Red
mostly yellow Rothko in fuming reds

Orange and Lilac Over Ivory blocks of fuming
Blue, Yellow, Green on Red – mostly
Red Over yellow Brown, Rothko

in fuming red-Orange and Lilac
Over Ivory Rothko blocks fuming Blue,
Green on Red plus fuming yellow Orange

reddened Lilac Over Ivory Red
Over Browning, Rothko
(a bit after five) and (black clouds are rolling in)

23/

fish, pony, horse, kite
squiggling



oh, my, the scribbled fine
small black strokes crossing open
tubes of squiggling paint
plus primaries *in various
states of creation* oh, my,
the scribbles fine small black
strokes crossing open tubes
of squiggling paint plus
primaries *in various states
of creation* my scribbles fine
small black strokes crossing
open tubes of squiggling paint
plus primary *states of creation*

paintings with vultures
sweeping through the gallery
school of fish, glowing matches, two

asparagus heads, the boy
on a pony, the Fire Sale repairman
Goya's horse and rider in motion, four

intertwining squiggles, each a different color

to paint Brown's boy on a pony or horse
and rider in motion sweeping along

the gallery with a vulture, Brown's
Fire Sale repairmen, four squiggles
each intertwining a differently colored school

of fish, glowing matches, asparagus
heads of Brown's Goya's Kite paintings
painting the brown's boy on a brown pony

behind Goya's brown kite squiggling
furioso through the gallery with its
vulture, school of fish, glowing matches

two asparagus heads, Fire Sale repairman
kite, boy on a pony, sweeping up after
the Fire Sale repairman has intertwined

four squiggles of different colored
fish, glowing asparagus heads, kites
Goya and Brown and me, squiggling, *furioso*

24/

there, in thick grass beside a slow stream
a Jersey heifer
wears telescope goggles to observe
a bragging rival



one with horns turns
to observe the huddled two Holsteins
wait for grain

three in thick grass beside a slow stream
four in a high meadow
four on a green slope, still

a Jersey heifer, a bragging rival with horns
turns to the huddled dairy cows awaiting
grain

three in thick grass beside a slow stream
four brown in a high meadow
along a green slope

a Jersey heifer wears telescope goggles
to observe a bragging rival
with long horns turns

the dairy cows, huddle, waiting
for grain beside a slow stream
and the high green meadow

the inertia, meanwhile, is extraordinary
waiting, huddling, bragging rival
mooing, with horns

turning to observe *the inertia*
meanwhile, a Jersey heifer wears telescope goggles
to stalk a bragging rival

four brown cattle in a high meadow
four on a green slope
two Holsteins waiting for grain

three in thick grass beside a slow stream
the inertia, meanwhile, is
brown, green, mooing, bragging

the wait for grain
huddled beside a slow stream mooing
in the inertia

meanwhile, a Jersey heifer wears telescope goggles
to observe another cow, its bragging
“meow”

25/

totem sea monster devouring
cow horns and copper tears

the heckler
and worshippers of falsehood



totem sea monster devouring darkened
“worshippers of truth, foes of falsehood,” despite
Cicero’s singing *the heckler did not show up* before

the actor with bright red lips and two hundred
people wearing identical masks of totems and
voodoo portraits with button eyes and the beard

in the circular stone face lacking teeth singing
of a pigtailed woman smiles in the crosshairs
perplexing a radiant sun, the totem sea monster

devours something in the unidentifiably dark
singing of a wall of grinning jack o-lanterns convened
as “worshippers of truth, foes of falsehood,” even Cicero

as an actor with bright red lips addressing two
hundred identical masked totems and voodoo portraits
all button eyes and teeth in a circular stone face lacking

stone, a beard singing something about a dark totem
sea monster devouring “worshippers of truth, foes
of falsehood” while Cicero cast as an actor with

bright red lips crows *the heckler did not show up*
in the face of two hundred people wearing identical masks
perplexing a radiant sun a wall of jack o-lanterns, all

grinning voodoo portraits with button beards in their
circular faces lacking teeth, the pigtailed singing
woman smiles in the stony crosshairs



a plaster cast of teeth, a peacock’s brow
silver shells and black tassels at the ears
two clamshells, jawbone and antlers

growling lion with broken teeth and cow horns
a terrifying circular mask of large peacock feathers
silver disk moonface and copper tears

the plaster jawbone and antlers cast in a disk
of the moon and a peacock’s brow silvery
shells and black tassels at the ears growling

O lion of broken teeth and two copper tears
and two clamshell tears, extending long horns
from a terrifying circular mask of large feathers

peacock	plaster	beak
jawbone	spike	shimmering
coppery	teardrops	tassel

growling: *would it be fun if you weren't a bit afraid?*

with coppery gun shells and blackened ears
could there be clams or peacocks
in a funny mask of plaster feathers?

behind the cow jaw, silver disk shells and
black tassels in the mane of the growling lion
if you weren't a bit afraid?

26/

in a frame within a frame
a portrait of a man behind cracked glass
bleeding from a wound in his forehead



in a frame within a frame of earth splattered
with flattened cupcake wrappers arrayed
under the radio telescope toward

one longhorn steer skull a portrait
of a man behind cracked glass in a frame
within a frame on earth splattered with flattened

cupcake wrappers arrayed under the radio telescope
toward one longhorn steer skull portrait of a man
behind a cracked glass frame within a frame

on earth splattered with flattened cupcake wrappers
arrayed under the radio telescope in its longhorn
steer skull portrait of a man behind cracked glass

bleeding from a wound in his forehead
they could be Scots without plaid
in a precession with families of ducks

not your High Plains regalia clusters of plaster saint statues
in robes behind splattered cracked glass bleeding

from his High Plains regalia portrait of Scots

without plaid clusters of plaster saint statues in robes
splattered in a precession of families of ducks
behind cracked glass bleeding from a wound

in his forehead not your High Plains regalia
portrait splattered *I sweated a lot, so did they*
who could be Scots without plaid in a precession

with families of ducks bleeding from a wound
in his forehead clusters of plaster saint statues
robed in cracked glass High Plains regalia

they could be Scots without plaid clusters of plaster
the saintly statues in robes splattered in a precession
with ducking families *I sweated a lot, so did they*

27/

in red costume and blue mask, with long white talons
a half-millennium before this decade
a centaur rides before a yapping small dog



to tack down lace and whipstitch a collar
in red costume and blue mask, with long white talons
a half-millennium before this decade
a centaur rides along Italy

with legs splayed *to tack down lace*
and whipstitch a collar a half-millennium
before this decade a centaur
rides along Italy in red costume and blue mask

his long white talons and legs splayed
as tacked down lace and a whipstitched collar
a half-millennium before a centaur with splayed legs

while Jessi took a shower a renaissance courtier
in silk shoes, his red arm in his white pants splayed
to trip a jester in a triune hat before a yapping small dog
that dangles a rabbit, floats

in the time *Jessi showered* in the splayed vapors
a rabbit dangled a renaissance courtier in silk shoes
before a jester in a triune hat floated

his red arm in his white pants before a yapping small dog

vaporous *while Jessi's shower* splayed a dangling rabbit
floating from the long white talons
of a renaissance courtier in silk shoes and white pants
whose arm reddened *while Jessi took a shower*

before the yapping small dog jester in a red triune hat
and white pants carries a dangling rabbit
of a renaissance courtier in silk shoes and triune hat
floats his red arm and long white talons

28/

an elephant with flowers painted
around the eyes and painted toenails

four zebras sipping water



luxurious green tent on safari white bone
ornaments through noses armed for the hunt
and cocktails already served
three African bushmen in a field of wrinkled flesh
eyelid (the elephant) *the rain*
is needed, sticky or no sticky (unlike the rhino)

zebras, black and white in a splash of vibrant green
with netting over the bed
luxurious green tent on safari white
bone ornaments through their noses
armed for the hunt and cocktails
already served three bushmen in a field
of wrinkled African flesh, an eyelid (the elephant)
the rain is needed, sticky or no sticky
(unlike the rhino) zebras, black and white

in a splash of vibrant green with netting
over the bed's luxurious green safari tent
white bone noses armed for the ornamental
hunt cocktails served by three bushmen

in an African field of wrinkled eyelids needing *rain*
sticky or no sticky the elephant (unlike the rhino) or
zebras, black and white in a splash
of vibrant green netting over the bed ornaments

beasts leaping from dust into a tropical river
before a tiger atop a car spirals between
four zebras sipping water the way
a camel's nose runs ahead of its mouth:

the hairy trunk and mouth of an elephant, so spotted
forages on hind legs, trunk and tusks upraised to the tree

the elephant with flowers painted
around the eyes and painted toenails
still leaps from the dust into a tropical river

a camel's nose runs ahead of its mouth from hind legs
upraised to the tree in front of the tiger
atop a car of spiraling spots

the hairy trunk and mouth with flowers painted
around the eyes guarding four zebras sipping water
and the foraging beasts leap from dust into the river
running ahead of its mouth

a camel on hind legs, the tree painted with flowers
and toenails *a feeling of life finally coming together*

atop a car, four zebras leap from the dust
into a hairy river and forage
a feeling of life finally coming together these days

29/

such a beautifully speckled trout
balancing on its head



in June
swirling
a long fish
a fish as long as the boy

a boy balancing a large fish on his head
in June swirling a long fish

a fish as long as the boy
a boy balancing a large fish on his head in June
swirling

a long fish as long as the boy
balancing a large fish on his head

red, yellow, blue, and green
under a decorative fish such a beautifully
speckled trout of a man running
back with quahogs and a tan Beyond Frog Hollow
tours halibut? red, yellow, blue, and green
man running tours under a decorative
fish *back with quahogs and a tan*
halibut? such a beautifully speckled trout

Beyond Frog Hollow red, yellow, blue, and green
a man running tours of halibut?
I really do need to get to know fish:
how to identify them under a decorative
beautifully speckled trout
red, yellow, blue, and green *back with quahogs*
and a tan Beyond Frog Hollow man runs
tours under decorative *quahogs and a tan* halibut or
such beautifully speckled trout Beyond Frog Hollow
I really do need to identify

30/

two hands, in shadow play
in the aquarium, spawning salmon



a wad of dollars unfurling a skinhead
with piercings and tattoos cutting
a woman's hair short
as fish scales in front of nude paintings
in a hazy salon yes, feeling the shaved head
unfurling a wad of dollars skinhead piercings
and tattoos cutting a woman's hair short as fish scales
in front of nude paintings in a hazy salon
yes, feeling the shaved head wads
dollars that would unfurl a skinhead's
piercings and tattoos cut short as a woman's
fish scales in front of nude paintings in a hazy salon
yes, feeling the shaved head

petroglyph man with a tail, raising an ax
in the aquarium, spawning salmon
with emblems of faith or ideology
as if to strike another or the antelope before them
deer grooming a deer or out-and-out commerce
twenty-five hands inscribed top and bottom
with a petroglyph man with a tail
raising an ax with emblems of faith
or ideology or out-and-out commerce in the aquarium

spawning salmon as if to strike another
or the antelope before them with twenty-five hands
inscribed top and bottom two hands
in shadow play deer grooming a deer petroglyph man
with a tail raising ax emblems of faith or ideology
or out-and-out commerce twenty-five hands inscribed
top and bottom *I have never felt so cherished or
that I have ever so trusted someone to be
who he presented himself to be*
in the aquarium, spawning salmon
two hands, in shadow play, the petroglyph man with a tail
raises an ax as if to strike another or the antelope
before them, emblems of faith or ideology or out-and-out
commerce in the aquarium, spawning salmon
as if to strike twenty-five hands inscribed top and bottom
with two antelope, in shadow play, and deer grooming a
deer

*I have never felt so cherished or
that I have ever so trusted someone to be
who he presented himself to be*

31/

a turtle sniffs
a box turtle shell
of blue spotted turtles



life out of a silly overnight bag
is getting me disoriented as much as sleeping
peasants with Mrs. Kerry form a turtle shell squall line

behind golden marsh hay, *life out of a silly*
overnight bag is disorienting
the sleeping peasants with Mrs. Kerry on a turtle shell

a squall line behind golden marsh hay *life*
out of a silly overnight bag has me disoriented
with sleeping peasants or Mrs. Kerry

on a turtle shell squall line behind golden marsh hay

waiting to dive to the river woven into a pouch
a turtle sniffs a petroglyph figure squall line
of blue spots painted on sunglasses

with slumber waiting to dive to the river
a petroglyph figures sunglasses woven into a pouch
are a squall line sleeping with the turtle

sniffing blue spots painted into waiting
that dives to the river petroglyph figure
sleeping behind sunglasses in a box

woven into a pouch a turtle sniffs
the awaited dive to the river
squall line of blue spots

paints a petroglyph figure on sunglasses
woven into a pouch with a squall line
of sleeping blue turtles sniffing a spotted box

32/

a bald head
and a human skull, crying



a hand against the mirror
a horse skull
bald

forming a hand
against the mirrored horse skull
baldly informing

a hand against the mirror
will turn a horse skull's
bald formality

a hand *with clay* crying
monkeys felt instead of furry
ferns forming prayer hands

monkeys ferns *with clay*
feeling instead of forming prayer
crying in furry-handed imitation

fern strokes in *clay* sorrow
handling felt
instead of furry monkeys

clay ferns on felt instead of prayer
forming elephantine bristly
strokes

33/

four pale sets of lips
rimmed in frost
prayer flags and the Potala



prayer flags and Potala of burning Buddhas
in rocky arena “251,” plus that Tibetan Red Tara’s
recipe for Himalayan incense prayer flags and

the Potala of burning Buddhas in rocky “251”
four burning bushes in the recipe for Himalayan incense
prayer flags plus Tibetan Red Tara recipe for incense

four burning bushes, four pale sets of lips
the Himalayan prayer flags and the Potala recipe
names “251,” plus the rimmed frost of burning

Buddhas in a rocky arena of four burning bushes
prayer flags and the four pale sets of lips
as recipe for Himalayan incense prayer flags

rimmed in frost of burning Buddhas, *Hari Om Tat Sat:*
the hairy WHAT? pale sets of lips burning
Red Tara in a prayer flag recipe from the Potala

the angel Aquarius, with a bare foot pointed to the stars
 reclines on a stone bench
 in front of a domed courthouse



Vermont green in decline where money
 was once transformed into Corinthian columns
 and porticos overlooking lawns high over reflected
 water as much as the Grand Hotel first-floor porch
 the length of a building that would *blast your yuppie façade*

hidden opposite a kitchen under an atrium lined
 with classical Greek busts inscribing some tryst
 in Greek drama nightlife countered by the classical
 proportions
 of a domed courthouse goddess in laurel and a red gown
 far from the masted ships in a storm, her arms bared

her bare feet Vermont green, reclining where
 once money was made carving Corinthian columns
 uphold a portico on a Grand Hotel high over the water
 with a first-floor porch the length of the lawn and
your blasted yuppie façade hides a kitchen under an atrium

its shelf of classical Greek busts inscribed with dramatic
 trysts countered by classically proportioned nightlife
 behind a domed courthouse goddess in lilac and laurel

and a red gown mast stripped in a storm of Vermont green
to such bare arms, bare feet now in decline

there was once money to be made behind Corinthian
column
porticos on lawns high over the waters of the Grand Hotel
porch the length of *your yuppie façade* kitchen
atrium with classical busts and dramatic trysts
countered by dome nightlife courting a Greek goddess

in laurel and red gown stained glass, a Greek revival
mansion
with four pillars and broken colonnade dividing a green
lawn
from a tall hedge statuary in a gray-headed cemetery
the angel Aquarius, with a bare foot pointed to the stars
now intertwined with trees
(Ursula, Arctos of bear legs and bear paws)

reclines on a stone bench in stained glass statuary
in a gray-headed cemetery (Ursula, Arctos of bear legs
and bear paws) revives four pillars as the angel
Aquarius, with a bare foot pointed to the stars reclines
on stone bench broken colonnade dividing a green lawn

from a tall hedge now intertwined with trees
in stained glass statuary in a gray-headed cemetery
(Ursula, Arctos of bear legs and bear paws)
reclines on a stone bench with *no uprising of life within it*
this Greek revival mansion with four pillars

broken colonnade dividing a green lawn from a tall hedge

in stained glass the angel Aquarius, with a bare foot
pointed to stars now intertwined with trees
statuary in a gray-headed Greek revival mansion
with four pillars, the angel Aquarius now intertwined
with *no uprising of life within it* dividing a green lawn

35/

red maple on gray rock against
vertical tan stripes
the pooling and hill



blue-eyed moth on yellow chopstick folder
star lilies against horizontal green striation
Chinese river scene, the coin inscribed
from a tickle-free zone of "Dried Dark Plums"

red maple on gray rock against vertical tan stripes
pooling under a blue-eyed hill of moths
over another yellow river, the Chinese "Dried Dark Plums"
held aloft on scenic chopsticks or inscribed coins

as folded red maple on gray rock against vertical tan
line up between the pooling and hill of star lilies
as horizontal green striation *from a tickle-free zone*
the blue-eyed river inscribed with yellow moths

as "Dried Dark Plums" are maple red on gray rock
against vertical tan striped pooling water buffalo work
in a wet field of chopsticks between star lilies open
against the blue-eyed horizon with its variations

as coins and moths inscribed in yellow Chinese
calligraphy, the *tickle-free zones become a river scene*

for a “Dried Dark Plums” holder of chopsticks
made from red maple in their tan stripes

as the gray rock against vertical pooling
toward the hill of star lilies and their horizontal
green striation *from a tickle-free zone*
water buffalo patiently work a field

36/

a sumptuous golden gown
worn with a pale green sun



Keep This Coupon

101953

of illuminated scent that unfolds as a stairway
dragged across the wall as a sumptuous golden gown
as that one-cup-and-she's-wired daughter of yours

worn with a pale green sun metal-leaf tree
a reminder, Keep This Coupon (101953) dragged
across the worn wall of pale green sun

with its illuminated scent of sumptuous
golden metal-leaf tree unfolding as a stairway
that one-cup-and-she's-wired daughter of yours
in a gown Keeps This Coupon (101953)
worn dragging the wall against pale green
sun a metal-leaf tree

back when Rolling Stone was a newspaper
of illuminated scent unfolding as a stairway
this Coupon 101953 kept a sumptuous golden
one-cup gown wired to that daughter of yours

yes, that daughter dragged across the worn

green sun of illuminated scent the opulent
gown of metal-leaf stairway
back when Rolling Stone was a newspaper

37/

action figures
watch a meter running
at the center of twenty-two electric guitars



to watch a meter running in the *first round of triage*
amid 26 thumbnails of mostly Third World import
and an assortment of drums and tambourines

to shoot marbles protecting action figures
to two boys stuck in the Great Depression
of two water tanks on two towers on two factory roofs

to run *a first round of triage, they'll* watch the meter's 26
thumbnails of mostly Third World import assort
marble drums and tambourines and then shoot
action figures to protect two boys stick Great Depression
atop two water tanks on two towers on two factory roofs
as the meter runs *a first round of triage in* 26 thumbnails
of mostly Third World imported drums and marbles

to protect action figures two tambourines strike
great sorrowful water tanks on factory roofs
as two boys watch the meter running *trriage*

a sunflower and rainbow cover
Spanish harbor fortifications fully

a whiskered rat sniffs a cigarette butt
still burning with cruel artifice as urbanity's
feathered woman the width of the street
dresses for a parading angel
lifts a torch at the center of twenty-two electric
guitar-playing women in the back of a trailer
pair running shoes they'll hang from utility wire
over Kate Moss posing in front of a grate



with so many strings and woofers, all pertaining
to Brooklyn sunflowers and rainbows
this could be some Spanish harbor fortification with
urbanity
where Kate Moss poses in front of a grate fully whiskered
or that rat sniffs a cigarette butt, still burning a feathered
woman the width of the street dressed for parade
becomes an angel lifting a torch for twenty-two
electric organs at the back of a trailer plus
a squealing guitar pertaining with cruel artifice
to Brooklyn utility wires over the street

in high voltage shoes Kate Moss poses in front of a grate
as urbanity includes an electric guitar, Habla, habla

a fully whiskered rat sniffs a cigarette butt, still burning
with cruel artifice in front of a grate a feathered woman
the width of the street dressed for parade angel lifting
a torch to the center of twenty-two electric guitars

three women in the back of a trailer each tie
a pair of running shoes hanging from a utility wire
over the street of urbanity Kate Moss pretends
the front of a grate is a fully whiskered rat sniffing
a cigarette butt still burning a feathered woman
dressed for parade the width of the street an angel
lifts her torch at the center of three women
in the back of a trailer another electric guitar
pertains to Brooklyn with cruel artifice
running shoes light a utility wire, Habla, habla

38/

in a salt marsh
in a lush gorge
against a glacier



at sunrise twelve horses
set out far below
a totem pole at sunrise in a salt marsh

horses *set out* below a totem pole
of twelve waterfowl trumpeting

at sunrise, yes, twelve horses
set out far below waterfowl
in a salt marsh

graze for yourself in a lush gorge
the agenda opens rhododendron
or a bald eagle on ash-covered slope

growling, yes, rhododendron openly graze
in a lush gorge under the bald eagle
the agenda of fish covering a slope

there, the rhododendron blooms
growl in the lush night, in its gorge
the agenda you graze, hovering

no bald eagle on ash-covered slope
growls its *agenda* on ash-covered
rhododendron grazing into night

39/

a dinghy moored on still water
dancing to Bix tonight
in front of the boulder and island



in front of the boulder and island
moored on still water
spires, houses, and the brick millyard
red between granite

a dinghy in front of the boulder and island
moored on still water spires,
houses, and the brick millyard

red between granite
a dinghy
in front of the boulder and island
moored on still water

spires, houses, and the brick millyard
red between granite
a dinghy

dancing to Bix tonight in a blue lake
against mountains reflected foliage
along a green river moose drab
on a sandbar amid *dancing to Bix*

tonight foliage along a green river
in a blue lake against mountains moose
amid reflected sallow *dancing tonight*
foliage along a green river, Bix on a sandbar
looking down from the hill in blue
lake against mountains *dancing*
to Bix tonight moose dun foliage along
a green river sandbar in blue mountains
against moose reflections *looking down the hill*

40/

three dogwood

two owls

a stone barn



stone fence

halfway up the valley of silos, tractor trailers
in mirrored sunrise

the symmetry, *yee hah!* of fence half stone
up the valley silos, tractor trailers, in the mirror
of sunrise coming home, *yee hah!*
setting forth along stone fence halfway up
the valley silos, tractor trailers,

in glittering *yee hah!* sunrise
so fleeting, unbalanced
between the gloved hands

a rosebud, three dogwood, two owls
a stone barn with blossoms that God
in front of a lone maple looks down

in a rosy stone barn fronting a lone dogwood
three maple blossoms look on two owls

that God, in a rousing talk in front of the lonely

fireworks of dogwood, owls, rosebud
blossoms, by God, around a stone barn

in front of a lone dogwood, what blossoms
into a conversation of two owls with God
looks up, looks down, looks around fireworks

41/

in the dune of the black-eyed Susan
a schedule diametrically opposed to my own



a stargazer adjusts a pile of broken
shell and black-eyed Susan polished by sea-spray

in the dune behind an urchin
adjusting broken shell, the black-eyed Susan

polished by mist, the blanched dune
kelp adjusting a pile of broken shell

and black-eyed Susan polished
by surf sweeping along the dune

an astronomer adjusts *a schedule diametrically opposed*
to purple shoreline in the type case of shells and dull-edged
glass where *my own* pile of green stones in the box of shells
pile up *a schedule diametrically opposed to* dull-edged glass
the purple astronomer adjusts the typeface in case
shoreline shells pile his green-stone telescope somehow
diametrically opposed to any heavenly schedule he attempts
tuning the dull-edged glass of *my own* type case of shells
piles in *a schedule diametrically opposed to* dull-edged
green stones along shoreline where I've set *my own*
telescope

42/

ceramic dragon as a weed patch with teeth

you, me, it

don't forget the oyster crackers



the repose of an attic ceramic dragon
papered in autumn foliage of a white T-shirt
and four blue candles caps a corner mattress
with weeds and a sequoia the attic room reposes
in a white T-shirt, a blue cap feeds on a corner mattress
the tile dragon ignites four candles with weeds
a sequoia papers autumn foliage over the reposing feed
that rooms in a white T-shirt and blue feed cap

a repairman walks past a weed patch
with teeth in white shorts

climbing a gray windmill two people
walk past as weeds with teeth patch

white shorts on two people climbing
a gray windmill repairman walks past

two people in white shorts and gray
windmill teeth climb a weed patch

in a corner in a weed mattress and sequoia
four candles won't forget the oyster crackers
nor tile ceramic dragon papered in autumn foliage
all the repose of an attic room of four candles fed
a white T-shirt and blue feed cap a mattress
corners a tile ceramic dragon with weeds
and a sequoia papered in autumn foliage feed
don't forget the oyster crackers atop four candles

43/

green drapes
the first week of leaf

before the coral color of cooked lobster



coral (stars) (in a buds of) still birches
(with the wind) an ocean of northern lights

divers (however) shamefaced
avoid the first leaf
draping some fancy coral (yet)

northern lights drape the stilled birches
shamefaced, avoiding some fancy ocean
frogman first

(as) the coral northern lights
leaf out, draping

some still sand bar
beyond fancy birches
(shelters) a roseate sea nymph

(at noon) divers are shamed
facing (her) (the one as fleeting as the) first leaf
or northern lights avoiding (possession) (capture)

(at midnight) hanging still (as) birches, divers
in their shame, avoid facing
(their) fancies, first leafing
(in the) still briny reef

lobster footwork
coming clear

the still green lobster
works its feet in coming
to the clear green

the rippling lobster foot
works clearly
in the coming
green

44/

no clouds except in the sky as yet
snow sits atop cones
in long-needed pine



in long-needed pine, a gray hill
beyond the snow-covered cones
becomes cloudy sky
yet pussy willows are molting

gray clouds of snowy pine
yet the sky covers cones atop long-needed pine
in the primrose sunrise the snow covers
pussy willows before you believe summer is coming

yes, beyond the snow-covered gray hill
wisps of clouds are melting
into pussy willows and pinecones

with the melting snow atop cones
the long-needed primrose sun sets
in a gray hill of pussy willows
you believe summer is coming

no clouds with the melting
wall atop gray cones

beyond the pussy-willow clouds
with the melting gray wall

birch beyond pussy willows, not clouds
melting the gray wall atop long-needed cones
beyond the pussy willows

45/

twisted screening full of insects

the cleansing rattle of loose shingles



those windows so jaded in their double row
windows racing past screening the Amoskeag
its jade cleansing mills
of the double-row shingles
screening chiefly the Wampanog who cleanses
a jaded chief regards chiefly the windows



a Chinaman tacks
twisted insects to rattles

the red hat trade
winds a twisted Chinaman

tacked insects rattle so twisted
the red hat trade winds

insects with a Chinaman tacked
to rattling red hats in trade

of a double row of mills
racing the cleansing Wampanog
would screen any regard
chiefly under its shingling Amoskeag

46/

cruelty that arises from bitterness
spanning a rocky streambed



the Japanese bow to India
with its dry ferns and maple
with its fronds becoming a cob of ribbon

in the dry fronds of Japanese
ferns and half-devoured cobs
the Indian maples bow and dry

cobs of corn and fronds
in Japan the Indian bows
as the ferns and maple

dry fronds of Japan maple
cobs of Indian corn from
stepping down to the streambed

a staircase cruelly arises
from rocky bitterness, yes, a staircase
cruelty that rocky that bitter
from that staircase cruel, yes,
arises rocky and bitter

beach umbrellas at the foot of the sagging pier, forever
towels wrapped in ribbons on a sandstone floor



don't know this beach as a sandstone floor
how long a floor measures good fortune
wrapped in sandstone ribbon
this beach a long floor
doesn't good fortune wrap itself in ribbon
knowing this how long
a good beach wrapped sandy fortune

kiss my face running with
new black Eagle purity at the soapy foot
of umbrellas she'll kiss my

pure soapy Eagle face
while umbrellas run with new black
at her foot I'll kiss this

new black soap opening
umbrellas forever facing
my Eagle kiss in the foot run pure

soap face Eagle
umbrellas run at the foot
forever new black

48/

with fiddles and crows
tracing a map of yellow leaves



on a map of frosted snow
three crows with their fiddles
in the crown of their living

of a rock face map, frosted snow
three crows with their fiddles
in the crown of their living rock face

on a map, frosted snow, three crows
with their fiddles in the crown
out of their rock face, tracing some life

atop scree, another one at the bottom, wintergreen

Dudley
of the forest
Jackie scrapes
atop scree
scrapes
berry
wintergreen
leaves Dudley
at the bottom
yellow
the other one

Jackie, yellow
scrapes
wintergreen
Dudley

the other one
atop scree
of the forest
scrapes
leaves
at the bottom

leaves
atop scree
yellow leaves
in the forest,

at the bottom
Jackie, yellow
the other one
wintergreen
Dudley
the berry, after all

to lovers who were never quite present



1

good-bye in the night who never were lovers
 repeatedly saying good-bye in the night
 who never were lovers repeatedly saying
 good-bye in the present night who
 never were tubercular contortions or squiggles
 good-bye tubercular squiggles to lovers' night
 repeatedly saying never quite contortions
 squiggles repeatedly saying good-bye
 to lovers never quite tubercular night

2

repeatedly	saying	never quite	present
good-bye	tubercular	contortions	
to lovers	night	squiggles	repeatedly
saying	good-bye	to lovers	never
quite		tubercular	night

sprawled on the floor, a barefoot bride without makeup



along with a martial arts master sprawled out
on the floor a barefoot bride without
makeup everyone you knew thought
it only a fragile joke and then

you pulled the trigger: blood runs
toward the tub drain *what made you think*
I had any clue what was afoot? martial arts student
sprawled out on the floor, a barefoot bride

without makeup, everyone thinking it only fragile
joke blood running toward the tub drain *what*
made you think I had any clue what was afoot?
a martial arts master sprawled out on the floor

a barefoot bride without makeup everyone you
knew thought it was only a fragile joke
blood runs toward the tub drain? *what made you think*
I had any clue what was afoot?

kick higher, kick higher
from the floor

the bride
the blood
a drain

barefoot
floor
fragile

without a clue
make up
bride

blood
floor
without

in the drain
a joke
the bride

barefoot
a clue
the blood

drains
barefoot
the floor

the joke
clueing
without

triggered
the bride
the blood

the drain
joking
the fragile

barefoot
a clue
trigger

the floor
without makeup
made you think

ABOUT THE POET



In each of his three poetry collections inspired by musical forms – **Six Partitas, Motets & Psalms**, and **50 Preludes & Fugues** – Jnana Hodson has found a unique voice to pursue. He returns to his father's comment, How could we live without music? This time, with the interplay of random visual images and clipped conversation all playing in the background of daily experience within a cosmic context.

ALSO BY JNANA HODSON

Poetry:

- Blue Rock
- In a Heartbeat
- Johnny Badge
- Harbor of Grace
- Waves Rolling Too
- Returning to the Table
- Elders Hold
- Winged Death's Head
- Green Repose
- American Olympus
- Over the Mountain
- Back Pack
- Susquehanna
- Riverside
- Rust & the Wound
- Long Stemmed Roses in a Shattered Mirror
- There Is No Statuary in Our Garden Except for the Plastic Spacemen Occasionally Surfacing
- Home Maintenance
- Rat-Tat Oscar
- Fiddler Crab in the Score
- Six Partitas
- Motets and Psalms

Novels:

- Big Inca Versus a New Pony Express Rider
- Hometown News
- Promise
- Peel (as in apple)
- St. Helens in the Mix
- Kokopelli's Hornpipe
- Daffodil Sunrise
- Hippie Drum
- Hippie Love
- Subway Hitchhikers
- Third Rail
- With a Passing Freight Train of 119 Cars and Twin Caboose
- Ashram

Non-Fiction

- Embracing Eden
- Revolutionary Light

Thistle / Finch Editions



Dover, New Hampshire USA