

LAST POEMS

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HYGIENE

Crying in the shower
(a million reasons why)
cleans me inside & out.

IMMORTALITY & OBLIVION

Immortality:

I saw one of my poems
stuck to a refrigerator.

Oblivion:

the only phone call in weeks
special offer on burial plot.

TONIGHT

Two dragonflies overhead
making love in midair
(let's try that tonight).

I saw a large black bee
disappear inside a foxglove
(tonight I'll demonstrate).

AFTER POUND

The days are too noisy
and the nights are too noisy
and life roars by like a dump truck
rattling the doors of perception.

SPRING

Sudden green in fresh mud,
melanoma on my face---
spring & new growth everywhere!

FAIRY TALE

Lovers go there too,
the Land of Missing Socks,
and are never seen again
no matter how many times
you look under the bed.

WAR

Any war, anywhere:
young men having adventures
and old men making money.

SKETCH

Great Blue Heron
on a stump
in the river

Old Chinese Master
with black ink
to capture that

PROVERBS

Crows squawk, children shriek:
human nature is nature too.

Awake in bed alone:
thoughts feel, feelings think.

Worthless notebooks in a box:
failure is the rule in art.

EPIGRAMS

In a culture of cell phones,
the revolution is silence.

Wordsworth's ten thousand daffodils
versus Whitman's dandelion.

The weather reminds us where we are
and not much we can do about it.

Unenlightened bodhisattva:
I prefer kindness to wisdom.

Wearing out, wearing down, wearing away.
Giving out, giving in, giving up.

Press Release (if I ever need one):
Ignore the poet & read the poems.

LAST POEMS

Now I have a broken spirit
a perfect fit for my broken body
and unrequited love for all I see.

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Young man, old man
once full of plans, full of worries
now full of thoughts, full of coffee.

*

Oblivion, greatest of gods,
even Death is your servant.
My scraps of paper all for you.