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# Must pay now 

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by

David Christopher Perkins
Bachelor of Arts
University of Utah
2006

A thesis submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the

# Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing Department of English College of Liberal Arts 

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THE GRADUATE COLLEGE

We recommend the thesis prepared under our supervision by

## David Christopher Perkins

entitled

## Must Pay Now

be accepted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of

# Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing 

Department of English

Claudia Keelan, Committee Chair
Anne Stevens, Committee Member
Donald Revell, Committee Member
David Holland, Graduate Faculty Representative

Ronald Smith, Ph. D., Vice President for Research and Graduate Studies and Dean of the Graduate College

December 2010

# ABSTRACT <br> <br> Must Pay Now 

 <br> <br> Must Pay Now}

## by

David Christopher Perkins<br>Claudia Keelan, Examination Committee Chair<br>Professor of English<br>University of Nevada, Las Vegas

These poems attempt to stand amidst the towering shadows of Enlightenment. One of these pillars involves the newfound land from a collective western European vantage and these lands are called the Americas. This space is where these poems are located. They suckle at the monolithic breasts of Enlightened Romance as did Romulus and Remus to the She-Wolf. The poems in their own originality engage with writers such as Jonathan Edwards, Alice Notley, Susan Howe, Frank O’Hara, William Carlos Williams, Walt Whitman, Christina Rossetti, William Blake, and John Cage. If there ever was such a thread in tradition, these people might be some hairs of it. They too engage poets such as Chrisian Bök, Kenneth Goldsmith, and Craig Dworkin, Donald Revell, and Claudia Keelen to name a few; that is to say, notions of chance operations and uncreative processes are embraced and tripped.

Too many people in my life have helped in the forthcoming of this manuscript. My professors, Claudia Keelan, Anne Stevens, Donald Revell, and Craig Dworkin are too to thank as well as my other fellow poets, my classmates, my extensive family, and my dear friends. A special thanks to Boyd Nielson and Evelyn Shields for their enduring support. And a many warm thanks to my life partner JC. And how could one forget my parents! Thank you!

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## By way of introduction

The explorations in these poems favor Puritan and antinomian roots that function in and around the expanding and contrasting paradigmatic glue for what we seem to understand as The United States. This favoritism, which we will see, is a most gentle interrogation. The marks of origin slip past the iris so that they may become forest that we see now once burnt. With the help of many who write about how we are concretized in the architecture of time and space, these poems address the elements; they, too, address dear friends here and gone. In regard to poetics, I go to the aid of William Carlos Williams and Walt Whitman, Christina Rossetti, Alice Notley and Susan Howe, Frank O’Hara and John Cage.

Some address the lullaby or the nursery rhyme. Others, still, John Adam's dynamo experience, Jonathan Edwards’ Dantean mollifications, John Cage's affair to silence and talk. Yet, dogs, cats, and flowers receive attention; likewise, the ecologic and economic, those of Archeology and Enlightenment, those of Capitals and Specters, those of Gender and Faith, those of Personality and Agency are located in almond-like clusters. The poem-series Fractured circuit board attempts to embody some of these affairs. Pin the tail on the donkey in its playful delight gives attention.
"The rose is obsolete / but each petal ends in / an edge [...] The edge / cuts without cutting / meets—nothing—renews itself" (195), Williams notices in Spring and All. The contours presented by Williams seem to possess an invested interest in drawing from the gifts of our history and our given present. "The fragility of the flower / unbruised / penetrates space" (196). One of my poems, On the bleeding edge, the rose, wants to look at the world in the rosy stained-glass, kaleidoscopically, gazing, to me, toward the rising sun in the east while it interrogates and consoles the foundations of raw civilization as we have come to know it. Contours and breakage is found on the surface in many poems here.

A concern for independence-its delights and its cleansed destructions, or leftover ruins-find headway. What do people do with their free time? What ought
people to do with it? Why ask or care about it? Walt Whitman excites in the pause, the reflection, the spontaneity that "free" time allows. Forever empathetic, Whitman finds contact in Song of Myself: "I Celebrate myself, and sing myself," he opens (188). By the end of the poem, Whitman exits; we might say he flees:

> I bequeath myself to the dirt to grow from the grass I love, If you want me again look for me under your boot-soles.
> You will hardly know who I am or what I mean, But I shall be good health to you nevertheless, And filter and fibre your blood.
> Failing to fetch me at first keep encouraged, Missing me one place search another, I stop somewhere waiting for you.

Movement is quintessential and so we encounter. The obligation is not occupation. You and I meet-and still this poem celebrates independence and loneliness. That is to say, loneliness is and is commonly spatial. I and You open and close; transference happens. Poem Encounter with Walt sits with him and asks a simple question. Today, a sensible response might be: walk away! But, the poem continues with a roaring comeback and ends with tender embrace of the strangely familiar being: the sensual circumstance, or circumference. Walt has seen better days.

My poem The Flamingo Wash might most be influenced by vision and necessity to fulfill that sensual circumference. Anybody who has felt the ecstatic by passing through this city-centered-regulated-badland, in which wadis reside too as urban wetlands—dumping lands—might experience impact. Christina Rossetti’s Goblin Market comes to mind: "the goblins cry," she says. These goblin gifts, fruits of the season, overwhelm the central and peripheral fields. In The Flamingo Wash the goblins are not so much merchants exhorting buyers of goods as the remnants left; the evidence of not only merchants and buyers, but too of the inhabitants of the wash and the vandalizers of
the wash. I saw nobody on this dream-walk. Adam is nowhere to be found! And, the good and bad fruit remains.

O’Hara's poem Image of the Buddha Preaching manages a lot of junk; the poem is littered with reference. It ends, "Nataraja [The King of Dance in Tamil; or, Shiva, the cosmic Hindu dancer] dances on the dwarf / and unlike their fathers / Germany’s high school pupils love the mathematics // which is hopeful of a new delay of terror / I don't think" (23). Precedence exists sometimes.

Fractured circuit board : Body electric : Comfort turned disease is a serial poem once breathed upon by some American Legal Scholar Sanford Levinson who sets forward a compelling case to consider and usher in a United States Constitutional Convention with several extensions in place in order to prevent immediate enactment by excessively self-interested people. Although Levinson is not fixated on economy, this serial spins to directions that engage the financial sector and the Nightly Business Report. It leaves from here and moves into image and the eye | I, and, then into a symptomatic listing of masculine, puritanical-antinomian grace-into the visceral faith-state with a man giving thanks.

This man in this poem is a modern day bandit-pilgrim—evident by even more dangerous pilgrimages that we commonly read. He seems to not know if it or he is in error; the man does not know if his survival is in error. That is to say, it seems his condition surpasses law. Indeed, law and self often conflict in the believer: it weaves the question if we can contain apparent contradictions and allow them to co-exist; moreover, what are we to do if prodded to action knowing full-well those arch-nemeses: these
matters seem to lie in the belly of the early American Antinomian Controversy: let us remember that every-body is a minority by the fact of our absolute existence. What structural violence occurs to the being? In early Anglo-America, the matter of error was woven into the fabric of township-society. John Winthrop, first governor of the Massachusetts Bay Colony and author of A Short Story, which is an account against Anne Hutchinson's grievous errors and somewhat about John Cotton, one of her defenders before she was exiled. It is often leveled against the Antinomian mental status is that of wanting to find an

> easie way to Heaven, that men may passe without difficulty. For, if a man need not be troubled by the Law [scriptural law; the dispute over the nature of Justification \& Sanctification], before faith, but may step to Christ so easily: and then, if his faith be no going out of himselfe to take Christ, but onely an act of the Spirit upon him, no act of his owne done by him; and if he, for his part, must see nothing in himselfe, have nothing, doe nothing, onely he is to stand still and waite for Christ to doe all for him. And then if after faith, the Law no rule to walke by, no sorrow or repentance for sinne ; he must not be pressed to duties, and need never pray, unlesse moved by the Spirit: And if he fals into sinne, he is never the more disliked by God, nor his condition never the worse. And for his assurance, it being given him by the Spirit, he must never let it goe, but abide in the height of comfort, though he fals into the grossest sinnes that he can. Then their way to life was made easie, if so, no marvell so many like of it (203-4).

Basically, one must work really really hard to earn a pittance of grace or sanctificationand that sanctification can only be found through booked justification. To Winthrop, the idea of anybody being conferred "Free Grace" is a specious idea that only leads to false opinion and leaves true Christians full of doubt. Doubt, by inheritance from Protestant Revolutions, is the fulcrum upon which disputes arise. Traces of this conceived conflict are littered throughout poems. Error and possession are the allegations brought against Anne Hutchinson. It is said that assurance of justification cannot be by faith (286) and if it is it is not gospel. I have chosen to leave scripture explicitly out of this manuscript for ascetic reasons, because good poems often suffice as good advice, or guidance, or warning.

The Nonconformist’s Memorial by Susan Howe landmarks this terrain: "The shadow of history / is the ground of faith" (13). That is to say, we come to find faith on the ground, lying there; history's shadow is not that looming, yet faith grabs momentum from that which is cast from history. Look! There is it! We are instructed: "The delirium of enthusiasm / is the victim of feeling" (145). Wait, is not enthusiasm a valid feeling, however delightfully delirious the feeling is? If parts of tradition comes to us from parts of history's shadow that have been selected and retained, then doubt-states arise unless tradition is wild imagination: "Tradition wild imagination" (144).

In my poem God's Determinations, from which I took the title from Edward Taylor's 2100 line poem by the same name, where he writes a cosmic lyrical dialog between justice and mercy, Satan and the Soul, Christ and Satan, the Soul and Christ, and God's decrees and accusations, and Church Fellowship and works through the conflicts of firm church membership requirements (49-121), I try to snapshot a narrative and a brief exchange between Souls and Satan. It ends with a call for Mercy; these themes resonate with my Mormon religious affiliation. When the small still voice resonates or a resounding exhortation comes forth, which differs from sacred texts, what is one to do? Cage reminds us,

When silence, generally speaking, is not in evidence, the will of the composer is. Inherent silence is equivalent to denial of the will. 'Take a nap, I pound the rice.' Nevertheless, constant activity may occur having no dominance of will in it. Neither syntax nor structure, but analogous to the sum of nature, it will have arisen purposelessly (53).

Curious cat is a short poem, aside others, that has echoes of Eliot and Williams. The useless, loveable creature is full of truth. Only one cat needs to be mentioned for the
stereotypical honesty to suffice. What arises to the occasion is what shall be. The curious silence exposes composer's will. Curiosity arises naturally; if not, take a nap.

In Alice Notley's study on consciousness in disobedience aptly published in 2001, she notes the soft sight of the eye: "This is not the Whitman intersection. // I see quietly // not walking out through the eye / into the blazing light of the Mystics / mingling with all // I am absolutely not You" (77). Light of Notley, as she has instructed me, is not unilateral; light is omnipresent at some angle or another. In my poem Coming to my senses, it reads, "The cableman left his shades / On the wall, / He came back / \& said, I was wondering why the sun is so bright." The circumstance of coming to, and coming to, and coming to ad infinitum: "Ah, the dawn of winter!" Sighs. Pound and Blake ought to be in here too.

In tradition of prologue

On the bleeding edge, the rose
Poetry is in the broken things
\& consider your potential when somebody says, You make a better door than a window

Look at these arms, those characters
A shameless opportunist, a svelteless master On that edge of disabled governance

Finding her is like trying to get blood from a turnip
\& it absorbs me into an ecstatic proposition
Where that self, a scholar in theft, gone, that soul, residual

I ride on the coattails of him, shrouded in green
Always already on the gangplank
Look at these arms, those epicene troglodytes
A thumb prick, that is all
Cut my coat according to your cloth
\& run, when possible, from that incubus of baggy habits, sleep
I made a mistake, $\mathrm{b} / \mathrm{c}$ sometimes we need to listen
To our scientists. A world dismantled, now,
We try, I said, to put it back, rearranged somehow
We must alter our constitutions to see verily

Break ground anew
poetry in the broken things
Poets
make broken things
Broken poets
Poets broke
Strictly broker
a whole brokest
Brokest of the broke
the breaks turn this way
Sheep brokes discarded
break fragmented ground
Break now ground

Celebrating our independence
We washed our cars
It was an early warm morning
Sky lit naturally by the finger of god
All of the washing stalls in full-occupancy
Cleansed for miles and miles
We celebrate

## Expressive liability

And when our individuality costs us The world
These are our words
Since sharing became a modish value
My dade said so \& he cannot read
Hiring Mexicans sheltered under pavilions
Away from the sun of Phoenix
Jerry bought a new sushi book
Yes, the epitome of efficiency
His expression, a liability to world
And, so,
If I do not censor myself, how could I
Exercise any agency

Double decker banner pennants about welfare
Corporatized class warfare
As the financial worlds take
Another crash dive,
I stand without interest

Without title

Where are all the dead bodies
I hear about \& never see
Except well-groomed portraiture
My cousin served time
He got out before death got him
Lucky, maybe blessed-
Certainly blessed but not because
Of any privilege other than
The advantage to breathe
More minutes
So tenuous
The hold of good \& evil
Diminished because he was
Already diminished --- Arjuna
Caught in the rhythm
O God Arjuna
Joey

## A full belly of misfortunates

She sand to me with all the gestures
Milk, Milk, lemonade
Around the corner fudge is made
I was not comforted
By this apt song
Because I was reminded
That my body makes food
Wreak in goblins market
Wreak and reek-those geeks
War tourists and light foootprints
Commoditized my king's image

Milk, Milk, lemonade
Around the corner fudge is made
But that is how spring is made too When the heavens fall asunder

Identity falls to the ground And is told to be good

Personality surrenders to
The whole story
Like that Boomshakalaka

Decorum in poetry
What we want is a poetry
That is sweet and light
But we found ourselves in disaster
Because we could not get
Metalanguage mastered, out of poems
\& so we sunk into a slug
Of sweetness and light

Pin the tail on the donkey

Spin, spin, spin around
This and That or But

I have done our duty to Sleep \& now can go on
Pin point
Pin up a flower pot
Pin down that thought to obsession
Habits are hereditary with flowers
Get pinned by the flesh
Until it cannot last
Pine away those feelings of nature
For if we fall

Pin more train feathers on the peacock
Pin blame on nature
Pin up roosters
Pin away Stylites
Pin in those blotched spots
Get pinned by pied beauty
Pen away crisis
I will take Buts please
This and That or But
I will take Buts please
Spin, spin, spin around

Queen the debt of recognition
I think it might be more
Inflammatory if it were lessons
One of consent and complicity
Because religious loyalties manifest flux
How to abandon your God
It feels good to go on impulse
Go good
Like you
Go green
Recitation is an instance of being
Repetition
Recusation
Resurrection
Can be friends
Its potential to unhinge personality

## Disarmed suspicion

Because virtue is an activity
There can be no state

In the locker room
What are we to do with the soul
since we notice that nature
is unsettled \& unsettling
bequeathed to tradition at least
as cage notices too tradition overturning tradition
or modifying it
it is the tradition of
replacing tradition
called too progress
because of our ontological fact
we necessarily modify \& contaminate tradition
hungry
lousy teacher
accredit
to make an eddy
e.g.
wreak wreck reck

This poem is in no ways meant to be exhaustive. It tries and it fails. So dear reader if you are on the search for an exhaustive analysis on such and such, look elsewhere.

Dying on the vine
Taking in the excess
Sunshine, wind, water, and soil
I want something that sticks to my ribs

Down there are sunken shopping carts
By George, by which I mean myself, I will invade to protect

Who, by the way, is a poet
Who wears goggles
Ablaze with light, a household name, Searches with google

I want to hear a song called
The Over-Decorated Christmas Tree

Sorry, you're gorgeous
But I have to pull away
The kettle calls

Okay, I'm back
Shall I cut you in half
Who contains a little cockroach
Astounding
He says religious strife requires economic
Solution

I receive through the brain, not with it
As I see through the eye, not with it
Why, then, touch the law to find a pulse

I used to darn
My socks
Now, they're just damned

Word into Worid
God is the silence
That surrounds every object
A primacy, i.e., a firstest
I felt it
Did you
I feel a tidal shift in my being
Which is largely unnoticed
I stood afoot the dynamo
Like John Adams
Lord, bless the living \& the dead
Free us from you name
Carry on, I said
It did not need to hear my affirmation

In tradition of nuptial

My relationship with him transcends law.
Whatever the law says, it is not sufficient.
We only want to be called by out rightful names.
The nature of the list has already changed-in poetry too.
The world is a baptismal fount.
There is an intensity to which on must resign.
Other people's intimacy: intimacy is monstrous.
Stupid law.
We must say there are no problems
So that we might begin outrage.
It is a stunning morning.

## Structural violence

Every-body is a minority
It is when we forget this fact
That we get into trouble
Bravado
Vibrato

We are minorities
\& we enjoy thinking about ourselves as such

Be careless when inheriting Our teacher’s prejudices

What it is you think it is you are writing
What seems to be a well put together doc about earth

## God's Determinations

Hope of salvation was a fool
As it turns out
My membership is elsewhere
Fear of damnation was a fool
It showed up too early
My membership is elsewhere

## Satan:

"Can you Offend and Fence both wayes at once? You'l then have sharper service than the Whale, Between the Sword Fish, and the Threshers taile."

Souls:
"A Trip makes not a Traitor: Spare we pray."
Come Captain to my will
Show me foolish ways
So served time has gone away
Come Mercy to my will
Show me Graceful ways
For if my feeling falls away

## Encounter with Walt

What if other mores \& their peoples don't
Want to be subsumed under this universal sympathy, Walt?
He roared, It doesn't matter so much where you start, just start! I contain multitudes, sometimes, gulp the aire \& open the borders of your
heart.
This thing is proof where, I said, the world proves itself. It pierces everything.

Whet my tender ego! Caress my waxen lobes!
The wind already
Divested me of my clothing.
Gaze on my jolly body \& breathe my mush!
Taste the brow of America, of its emigrant memory!

Curious cat
His prophecy is filling
Full of truth Paterson will burn
Down its libraries
With some kindling help \& petro

## Polity

The wars of nations, we expect,
Will be conducted in orbit
Which is a kind of generative grammar
—yes-or-no switch
Individuals will object

This you is an intrusion
Everything is pierced

## By your presence

Hoorah

We tourists
A light footprint

Cars trains \& cares
(better) Homes
Gardens
I fear being klutzy: stop it! No need.
Your comments are rarely boneheaded.

Would world
Would world believe me
This thing is data on it
Blunted bearer of it
Or would world say
You can have it
I am majestic
World would say
Come unto me
I embrace all, dissolve all

## Coming to my senses

The cableman left his shades
On the wall,
He came back
\& said, I was wondering why the sun is so bright
He left again
Ah, the dawn of winter!
Poets who try to come to terms with their poverty and hence their limited influence. That influence is tied to one's ecomonic potential, or, more accurately, one's economic reality!

Coming to is just the beginning. One must come to over and over and over circumstance

That which sustains

How can any medicated person, such as ourselves, piss
Without thinking of the drinking water?
That watershed of life
That which squelches the flames
That which feeds the forest
That which wipes away cities

That which gives hummingbird life
That which makes the grass grow
That which cleans our teeth

That which steams vegetables
That which rains of Shangri-La \& D.C.
That which folds effortless through our veins
That which the veins of the earth pump
That which dyes our piss

## A walk

One walks about,
Attentive dartful eye,
Like one knows not
What was born
Until bore ear
Approaches with support
Of propeller feet:
By sawing in delight one ate e-ah.

## Washing machine empire

You want to know what it is like to live in empire.
Look about yourself. We are
In empire.
I do not want to be on the outside of it Where it stomps its feet and waves its arms.

The living god \& that of unfolding deeds.

Half-belief

Stop waiting

## Rest

Emotional content wanted to reinscribe me

> Your
> Year

One for sonar \& bleeding whales
One for the axe of class

One for prostitution
One for necessity
Like an old building layered
With chipping paint
Lyrical solution is alive in the world

## Bright \& rising

A professional allowed us to rest in practice
\& so I went to inscript
The mailman walking her dog
The neighbor walking his turtle

I am a gentle man
-that I'm sure of
A real ghost

## Terse-collapse

It's true
I get jealous
Of opportunity
Lord-o
Tender

Since awareness \& cognition of it exists...
A happily deranged character

Vigilance
A counter of the days Morning

I am only good
At spurts
Thank God
The only way to get through to him is to get through with him In skin

A diamond skull, found artifact
For the Love of God Encrusted
Pedometer reeks
Wet odor

Spew dust
Counter of time
Already inseminated Incarcerated
Incremented
Incremated
Next What

Salivate for empire
I do not want to commit
Any thought crimes
\& be jailed as a terrorist
I did not want him to think
That I was some hard-egged criminal
Who escaped from Alcatraz \& found My way into his classroom

In tradition of the intermediary

The Flamingo Wash
|| Corridor to burning bushes

The Vegas wadis
Like their city
Because
They weave
Under boulevards
And through
Lush sands
It's
Surface
Here
They like surface
Like a biography
Likes fiction
The sluice
Is never
Closed
Because it rains
So seldom
Puddles ponder
Damper days
\& gladly receive
Our refused
The wadis
Gather moss
Sometimes
\& oil from surface
Streets
They flush
City \& carry
Away its litter
O wadis
Never close
Your sluice
Fill dry
Riverbeds
Of desert
Run free
Across the strip
Carry us to the desert
Away from like
Where no buildings are
So we can see

| Another surface |
| :--- |
| That shimmers |
| \& colors our soul |
| Lead us onward |
| In one of |
| Your currents |
| To where |
| Dust stirs |
| With the Joshua |
| \& the sage |
| \& those animals |
| Red rocks |
| \& Charleston |
| Green |
| Cactii |
| They are |
| Concrete wadi |
| A ghost town |
| Through |
| The hills |
| Around |
| The traces |
| \& craters |
| Like |
| The Grand |
| Canyon |
| Wide |
| Open |
| Spurt |
| Spurt |
| Drizzle |
| Spurt |
| Smelly puddles |
| Birds |
| Vegetation |
| Like |
| The spray |
| Of Mary Jane |
| In fall |
| Sun |
| Makes |
| You |
| Glimmer |
| The moonlight |
| From |
| The ground |

Another surface
That shimmers
\& colors our soul
Lead us onward
In one of
Your currents
To where
Dust stirs
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\& the sage
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Drizzle
Spurt
Smelly puddles
Birds
Vegetation
Like
The spray
Of Mary Jane
In fall
Sun
Makes
You
Glimmer
The moonlight
From
The ground

Pillars
Of
Light
The bushes
Are
Not bare
Out here
\& they
Are burning
||| Notes at the wadi
Cars buzz by you
People walk over you
Pipes fall into you
Ducks peck at your moss
Puddle ducks \& diving ducks \& dabbling ducks, for all I know Pecking about in your runoff

Fenced off
Concrete encloses this bit-
Business, then houses
Rocks around-
Green bottom
Green sides this time of year
Someone threw a suitcase
Down there-plastic, paper,
Pharmaceuticals-runoff from everywhere
Saltine crackers-just a box
Bioxide container next to an encased sound
Of a churning wheel
Above a tiny solar panel
Container—don't think it will rain today—like it was said

Broken concrete ledge-Mini-falls foam, Gush waters

Wind in plastic bag:
The wadi’s flag
A blue shopping cart
Crashed there
A sopping wet
Mattress too
A pair of ducks swept away
In that little current
They go sideways-180́․
There go their orange feet

Wild, trying to find Their footing

Ah, there's an access point A small path where concrete endsAt the other side of bank

A blanket-someone's
A bag filled-a makeshift Home, I suspect

A pile of flattened boxes With a jagged rock atop Lots of writing on cinder brick wall

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AFRICA
BAD SEEDS
FAG
```

HELLO
CLASS OF 1979
FUCKING 4 TRUE LOVE
TO BE BLACK LIKE ME
An elementary across the way
From here-nice playground
I could imagine coming to
High school here-on
These banks
Lost jacket, there

Gets more green at
The turn-
Ah, the tall casinos
On the horizon
Is that-yes that is
A sign
WARNING:
NO TRESPASSING
FLOOD CHANNEL

A sign mean for me, I wonder

It's facing me-I am in it
The barbed wire is pointed toward me
Duck quacks
I see a few white-faced Ibises
A long-billed Dowitcher
That elementary school is actually
"Cambridge Recreation Center"
What some around here call the Wash, others Home
A tarp nailed to the earth
Light green-with a yard
Of plastic turf in front of it-
Facing the wash-someone's
Front porch
A bevy of shopping carts
One is sunken into the earth
Terrain gets more rugged
As I approach
Next intersection with pavement-
Gets steeper
At this point the wadi disappears
Goes underground or something I sense it was buried
By heaps of dirt with
Exhausted welcome pennants
Across the way-yellow-
The promise of something new
Smells of a cesspool-
Like a harbor attached to sea
Specks of color
Greens \& Yellow \& Whites
\& Browns \& Grays \&
Reds \& Blues \& Blacks
I pass these spots
People have made their own
\& feel intrusive

I only saw it after
I came back from there-
This place: a sign on peppy Maryland
WARNING: NO TRESPASSING FLOOD CHANNEL
Notice by Clark County
\& these baby palm trees
It's Palm Sunday \&
It is the five year anniversary of war

## Gangplank among us

Come, o heavenly spirits of earth, \& sweep my eye Into your velocity of flames, oceans, jet streams, Continental plates-the living.
Pray, give over my attentive horizon to you, Might mother, \& spare me not a gram - an ankhFrom your gorgeous voluptuous form, b/c I am of you.

An end to poverty
A shameless opportunist, a svelteless
Master, I run from that succubus:
Their suburban piety is more Than I can bear-a big big bear.

Free market imperialism, a geographer Of class \& culture \& digital trails:
Empowering pattern
On schizophrenia, a bad driver, Sometimes, living outside my feelings, living Too close to feelings, a heavy confusion, High stress prods paranoia, get mind lost In work: senses giving too much - unable To integrate it. Alone needed to rehearse Some reactions. Verbal memory \& delusion Not that pronounced: the connection, The thought insertion, my mind. Trial \& error pills. Capacity to conceive The mindset of another, b/c paranoia, etc. Equal footing. Depressed paranoia state. Madness is a foreign country; isolated, left Out of mental minefield. Stay healthy. Voices that originate in mind: can become Diminished as whispers or shadows in, of mind. Suffering but in altered state of existence. Voice \& myself: a difference. A little Better, a little worse. Chronic. Stay healthy.

Fractured circuit board : Body electric : Comfort turned disease

## I A constitutional Convention

Where are the new framers?
Now, now no Founder bashing,
Yet they took the field at dusk:
Some intrinsic goodness in document.
We venerate like blinded Oedipus (w/o the Freud)
\& contribute to discontents:
As if all astrologic signs where aligned (ahem!)
While other models wander about.
Structure hard-wired \& majestic generalities:
Constitutional faith \& phenotypic laws;
Popular Vote \& Electoral College:
Supreme tenure \& long term appointments;
Vast diversity \& extraordinary pluralism;
Youth Vote \& Age Minimums for Offices;
Migrants \& Presidential Office.
If you don't like Arnold, vote agained him!
Emigrants who have made vast contributions, Embarrassing constitution: a fantasy of drives. Create incentives so people can respond (hooray, now we're moving).
The amount of sense flawed in representation.
Indefensible... who thinks nationally? (Redesign).
Impeachment clause: irrelevant debates: vote no confidence!
To what degree do we believe in belief,
In democratic projects?

Talk was abundant; structural issues were $7^{\text {th }}$ grade.
Fantastic foundations
\& sanctimonious consumption,
But not of this.

II Value: import is in title
Consumer spending was up while consumer confidence fell. Risk of inflation, a major culprit: it's a growth recession.
The next report is just b4 Halloween (enough time to say trick of treat, he says).

The NASDAQ deposit was down $.07 \%$
Dow Jones average was over all down 1.1\%
Shares of 3Com soared 300\% today; Home Depot was bought out by.
Union workers at GM change healthcare: it's on employees to become Responsible; (it's a limited pot of money, another says).
NYSE has most actives: too many. Brazilian conglomerate plunged.
Bush acknowledges human activity influences climate change, Fails to advocate new policy \& law.
All gold stocks are up! Consulting firm up!
Harman Internat'l, speaker maker, was was-but sales fell.
A major loss in that stock (sorry, missed the name on the last).
Of any interest: that company is buying its own stock.
Apple, most active: iPhone hacked.
Videogame maker holdings up 500\%.
Juniper Networks = bandwidth applications.
Japan leas in eco-energy market: man makes homes out of Styrofoam (8-inch coast of concrete too), holds heat or cold, Withstands quakes. Dome home (like sleeping in your mother's womb).

Federal Regulators shut down NetBank (they're hard at work). Innovation at work. Curtail medical expenses.
Wynn Resorts a winner 75.8\% $\rightarrow$
World markets seem within stable range, consolidated-wow look
At Hong Kong \& China too! 439.64 points.
Crude oil inventory will be later in the week.
How would you best describe the market's behavior
Over the past few months? Mr Standard and Poor Man.
"Well, it's been quite resilient..." out on recess.
Losers: Akamai Tech (internet applications). Sepracor (Lunesta).
Volatility hith: energy shares have a good run.
Sponsered by Franklin Templeton Investments; A.G. Edwards.

## III An orchidaceous arrangement

He capacitated me
To do what is right.
I came to
Poetry distraught, In a wreak.

Within a series of instances in interstellar darkness, we blissed out.
A policeman threatened to sully my reputation as a Puritan.
All I could hear was a gentle yet hortatory susurration.
An incubus visited a gay body builder in his sleep, Lifted him, leaving him alert \& refreshed.

He fell between two stool (on accident).
Here, Selenographers are a dime a dozen.
Can we ever decommodify?
I want to be in your good books, But take your free-market panacea and shove it somewhere.

Therapeutic? I write \& still need a therapist!

## IV Poetics of masculinity

Blurred vision.
Numb legs.
Irregular heart beat.
Restlessness.
Numb brain.
Severe headaches.
Heat flashes.
Flu-like symptoms.
Dreams.
Muscle aches.
Stiffness.
Irritability.
Mind isn't working.
Blurred vision.
Condition is episodic.
\& later in time.
At a later stage of development.
Situated behind.
Transformation.
Alternation.
Beyond, transcending.
At a higher state of development.
Having undergone metamorphosis (metamylocysis).
Related to chemical substance (metaprotein).
Tracery poems to make you feel better \& look great.
Relapse \& triggers \& recovery.
As I live in time, I am in the business of producing eternity.
Free grace - what kind of authority?

When impairments in reasoning | decision making and emotion | feeling stand out Against an otherwise largely intact neuropsychological profile, the damage is most extensive in the ventromedial sector; moreover the personal | social domain is the one most affected. It is a marvel of coordination, this emotive brain.

## VI Faith

My point is that the process does not stop there. The innocent processing of Body change rapidly triggers a wave of additional body-state changes which Further deviate the overbody-state from the base range.

## VII Freudianize

He made the us occult, clinical:
My relation is a trust in probability
\&, then, what? A language we fear.
That wild tongue: borrowed words.
Match it! Match it: ignite the kindled flames of Heaven!
My antecedents lie elsewhere.

VIII Misvalued
Intellectual reputation \& church activity sally along hand in hand I will prove it to you:
Under a flimsy structure for a bus stop, I sat
In a hard seat \& overhead protection proved scant.
$\$ 1.25$ in hand, two bags on shoulder \& back.
Suddenly a twenty-something man approached,
Stood atop the metal trash receiver,
Two heavy grocery bags in hand.
I watched him with suspicion that turned quickly to curious compassion. He was deft in putting his things on top the wall of some 8 feet \& propelled himself over the wall into some unknown cloister of sub-urb He said, voice to the say, Thank you Amerika for all you have done to us.

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