

c l a r i o n

p r o t o H o u s e Δ p r i t y l i g h t s

G R E G O R Y M A R K E E

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MADISON

PASSING THROUGH

Organon
passing through
I left a trail of beads
to return to adolescence
after the book
is written

I notice
a thousand authors

A thousand lakes

Not everything is significant
not everything is immediate
not everything is catalogued

Organon
is a reliable vehicle is a reliable bicycle
good shoes
is a writing instrument
the margins of her book

The discretions of anonymity
are to one's pulse
are to mind one's own logic
I am not anonymous
because

I read Whitman and Dante and Dewey
that is all

Organon
passing through
I can say I have cornered my imagination
given it a name
something other than anthropology
like tree or
cloud or river or
like fertility like psalm
like fertility

FEAR AND LOATHING

Which of you started this
persuasion
I have a question I saw

Journalism is
wearing jeans and button down shirt but that is not important
the print beneath the image of the rally says
numbers
and the efficacy of numbers
and something promise something

The bus is like a greyhound bus a greyhound plane
transportation and with a window
the phone poles pass like the clouds
enough of a distraction to ignore distraction

Write something
important importantly

Which of you caused the election
upon which
fifty five percent of us will smile
the other forty five percent will start campaigning
already
I have a question just curious

See the people in the front
see the witness in the front see the spectacle the flag

What is the difference between a democrat and a republican
if not two percent

Journalism is a list

Hold me

The campaign trail favors the imaginary
the campaign trail is differently received for the journalist
the cooperative pair
one in one out

THE MISPLACED WAND

Was left on automatic
kept turning people into their worst fears
like old
like a hooved animal
like alone
like poor
like misunderstood
like a caged bird
like responsible
like honest
like a domestic reptile
like an invertebrate
like a chosen one
like a volunteer
like their parents
like a vehicle
like lichen
like weather and without consciousness
like progress
like inaptitude
like love
like a coin
like a turtle crossing a road
like destiny like fate
like one saying yes when they do not understand
like the idea of naturalization
like being a part of a body but not the whole
like a girlfriend's best friend
like a button
like a styrofoam cup
like a bad poem
like the idea of a dog but not the dog actual
like temptation
like waste
like time just time
like church
like a language referring to imperial stout as medical imperial stout
like a serpent
like a rodent
like a vegan
like a cross bearer

RETREAT

Abandon
all of the intentions
for foundations and the accuracy of foundations are
corrupt

Because logic is paired with
a tended exclusion

But it is my own moral wealth said conscience
claims
sustainable empires of fiber and material and art
are a temporal nod to affirmative action
sustainable empires which are manicured gardened grass fed
sustainable empires with voices
sustainable empires progressive and stationary with news
are not extraordinary

The burden
is the quiet upon a peace

Retreat
you were never wanted you imposter
that is not the way to make friends
we are risen already thank you very much
not everyone speaks english
the world is small enough for company plan a vacation
o

Can I take a bottle of wine with me
nope
how about a cantaloupe

The doctors are waiting the receiving doctors are waiting
the triage doctors and the nutritionists
to say things to about
the veracity of winning
somewhat
in kind
popularity
never mentioned popularity

Eurydice
gone

the walnuts are forming it is early
require a song

scare away lightning for music
the power of music

again for loss again
and again again for hope
again for prosperity

I say the wind is a song
as nature

the river styx is unaffected by
a musician

Eurydice stolen like material
vanish

in the winter the lake ice
pops

the
falling
tree

now you are dead and are you punished
are you
rewarded
is no matter is rhetorical

the confines of death are
better avoided agree

and to socialize in an orchard
and you can play your lyre

Wake! now!
your greed has been stolen in the night
and all that remains is
this pile of gold
and this instrument

You are done acquiring
finished

And listen too them like fish
tugging at the same meat
we will not but notice who
has claimed your greed
and we will be able to do nothing

And if sentiment's draw were instinct nor yet
assembled
and were it language eventually to capture love
and the emotions
[but not all of them I say]
[not in their entirety] [nor them emerging]
the voice of the block of knowledge claimed
written
I only describe reason sentimentally I only describe sentiment
reasonably

Watch

The present subject of reason assumes reasonableness
would you agree

What is more beautiful
would you agree

Because

The assumptions of order are a draw to what can be described as
meaningful
maybe not were we to disagree upon
order and a merits of subject
including what carries an attention

Because

Predisposition and interest and a generalized likability
of walnut fig bread
may not require an explanation
may not require one to convince themself or others

Like the nature of favorites what have you
like blue jeans today are comfortable
it is a cool day but I would have worn them anyway

Supposing reason when one is alone do I recall
practice [and whether homoglossia is a word]

To those who know the depths of the ocean
the ocean is bigger than the sea
and receives contributions from all of the rivers

To those who know the subtlest air and the greatest force of air
the mountaintop and what exists above the clouds
nearest to light

To those who know the most delicate of natures
the monarch and the milkweed
the backyard mushroom sunrise the morel the psilocybin mushroom

The midnight flight of the stars
turning about an orbit and how the moon does pass
turning about an orbit

To those as close to another as to know one's own self
the taken word is a happened object is reborn
do we not know more than what is said ah

Deep in the forest where the light is green and smells green
but for a beams of light but for the elevation of souls unto
this

To those in desert said desert's time is slower
nor forgotten but covered in quiet life
and birds and birds to speak of like the imagination

To the color of the mind lent to history and stories and being
the poet
and to be satisfied when a words are completed then

To those who suffer no pain at death but are held
how they wish to be
held

To those among an average day for a wings are kept as standard
and what fantasy then
upon such heights or to be satisfied

THE CICADA ON MY SCREEN

The size of my thumb
ugly and with pretty green wings
bug eyes of course
do not go near such a large insect
it was missing a leg
lived underground for seventeen years
will mate
will die soon

Hours later it was still there
hours later it was gone

HEY CHIPMUNK

Little teeth
pawing at the screen
no you cannot come in
friend
scurries lost in the grass

THE TRANSIT OF DESIRE

Probably a car
preferably a train
a couple days maybe

The challenge of logistics as an answer to
the affairs of the heart

Is honesty and patience
is reasonable to say
balance atween a conditions and the unconditional

The transit of desire
moves the shape of want the containment of want

PRECEDENT AS LEARNING

The social combustion engine of civil liberty
restarted frankly
is said you should wear something other than sandals
the tie dye is okay but you should wear something other than sandals
this is a warehouse not a beach
does birkenstock make steel toe shoes
asked the kind union leader
probably not

The challenge of the continuity of a character
which spans all of the environments is a test of all of the environments
as one asks themself the question
who am I
really

But a place does shape
I do not know what you have been doing
but a place does shape

The social combustion engine of civil liberty
the attachment to the idea of civil liberty is
constitutional reason
what is my constitution across all of the environments and
how is my constitution fed

The precedent of family leave honoring the new mothers
supposed men too should be able to take family leave
for reasons of familial attachment
but the leaves were unpaid so
the mothers and fathers shopped for a family friendly workplace
policy is policy

Precedent as superstition is only faith
precedent as only logic is only [listening]
just what I saw just what the cat dragged in just what I overheard
the fallibility of learning is cause for relearning
the same subject
precedent for having gotten it right the first time
precedent because that is what the professor said
is a theory to say [rest precedent and be]

KINDNESS TO STRANGERS

ACT 1
Acknowledge
no you cannot have my slushee but I can tell you
the flavor is red
seventy seven today quite comfortable for small talk
eh
no I do not follow politics
but dialogue
no I do not consider this theatre [but it is]

ACT 2
[Silence] [an apple being bitten]

ACT 3
The lug wrench does not fit my lug nuts
woe
woe is me
vanity is your fault I am so attractive
the regrowth of intelligence for having been stifled
she took my hand she took my adaptations
kindness from strangers

ACT 4
Eye contact of what variety
for consequential to the stare how each kept walking
and with no interest
[but not all are interested] [not all have time]
for consequential to the ways of positive looking
like the attachment of a smile
that is all

ACT 5
The man with the walker fell
the wheelchair and the nonautomated door
the crying child unattended at the grocery store
the friendly woman speaking so softly as not to be heard
[who is in charge here]
I was a stranger and you did not welcome me
the hunger strike
capitalism and child labor

IN THE INTEREST OF TIME

The good watch

The rules of order
efficiency

It is a free country but first we must
arrive at some measure of organization
so that things happen and continue to happen
are there any volunteers here today

The eclipse

And to be as old as winter
mention the boiling eggs while the coffee is brewing
while the bread is toasting

Can you both speak at the same time I have to get going

A biological clock
aging
in the interest of time make a friend with a retiree

This is a list an abbreviated list
in the interest of time

IN THE INTEREST OF TIME

Candor replaces small talk

There is somewhere I need to be
and I need to grab a bite to eat
and I need to get gas
why am I talking to you

Daylight savings confuses me twice a year

In the interest of time
take a moment
to think about daylight savings

THE WATCHER

The broken silence may be confusing to
the senate majority leader

And without judgment
the unmoved mover adjusts himself in his chair

The importance of the seat
to the voyeur

What is not nature if to have located oneself
situated oneself

In plain sight invisibly in plain sight
that there be no interference in the interest of validity

Statistics reinforce the idea of
goodness

And through a window then
the neighbors passed at their usual time

In every season
the neighbors passed at their usual time

I remember
soon the leaves will brown and then the geese

Like it is usual common
but for when the rain the storm turns the sky

And sunlight at the end of a storm for
a rainbow

Soon the leaves will brown and the geese I will hear
but I make no mention of futures

I WILL WEAR DENIM AND SEE ANIMALS AT COUNTY FAIRS

I will take a book to the park and never read it

When I am old I will remember

I will appreciate movies without considering actor's names

I will allow hippies to use the front door

I will continue to call my bicycle a bike and without confusion

I will stop to watch the roadside turkeys

I will not suffer and if I suffer I will not suffer

I will eat vegan food if you say it is good

I will wander aimfully

When I am old I too will wear the color purple (Jenny Joseph)

I too will wear flannel and walk on the beach (T.S. Eliot)

I will listen to stories

I will give names to familiar and unfamiliar things

What I used to stop I will let go

When I am old I will throw a frisbee

I will ride a train across the country

I will wrap gifts with excessive paper and abandon

I will go to the museum in my favorite hat

I will make a museum

When I get old I will comfortably inhabit my home

THE SILVER CHALICE

The wooden chalice

Celebration of the animal

For when there were fires

For when they were asking

Sacrifice

But their own their littled own their sparse littled own
is not enough to give

Convince me

The logic of futures is attached to a memory

Was a mother's protest

not enough [period]

And wickedry is never mentioned like how is mentioned

Value for value the trades of cultural satisfaction
the attachment of what value to life

The silver chalice

The wealthy parish but hers

And what is one object against silence but small

Natural

Method

Homily

Is a voice a recurring voice for what is not considered
for what is not forgotten
[blood]

Conception

The telling silence had no name no institution

The pencil scratched the unlined page

The sounds of bodies of water

Words a mother uses

Wandering in the desert for seventy pages
phenotype

The condor and the carrion

On the invention of mechanical forces

Ocean fragrances

Hyperbole and distraction

I require a moment I require a tent

First cause respond second cause dissent

The ski park

Atomic strawberry pie atomic appetite the appetites

The atom bomb the neutron bomb the hydrogen bomb
artillery ordinance subordination

The bowled interior of the peak of the dormant volcano
cinder

Deception

Blasphemy protagonism natural cause decay

Last will and testament

Is no distinction to regard

the categorical rightness of high and low art
but to say

they served cookies and ritz crackers here and crab something there
the reception

invitation

the benefactor the critic the sunglasses

Art is meaningless

Show

me how huh uh

the assembly line production the sticker with a price
a manufactured beauty

one of a kind the only self portrait the artist ever did
called self portrait

put above his fireplace for four weeks and moved to the closet because
he preferred the mirror after all

Art is proprietary

Art is governed art is put

Art is voluntary is not art voluntary

Fine art is one hundred years old

The errors were kept
intentionally

Stand back and you can tell which is the dog and
which is the memory of the dog

The original the spirited original the categorical escape
just

how it was intended

without interference but a master's method

governs a material but not a subject excepting what is presented
carried with white cotton gloves

To auction

The good poem

how refreshing
a good poet

the entitled reader
bounced around except for stories

but that whole poem
front to back

kept
releasing

8/12/19

A DOUBLED EFFORT

Because the first is often assumed
then gone
like morning fog
and the empty cars are still rolling
the vacuous
because responsibility declares responsibility

And the alternating days one good one bad
plan for [that]

Nor I require permission
having been autonomous long enough to suppose
a doubled effort
is an address to the seams of being the continuity of being

And it is
heartfelt
to wish upon an original to carry an original
[but you can only have the reproduction]
[or nothing at all]

But absence is no pain if to have had exposure to absence

The nominative meditations of
penance
like suffering is no suffering
but a series of questions and verities

It is only professional to say vocation and whether
the avocations
are parallel to the vocations add
[upon such separation of the self I have made soup for neither]

Attachment is push to want to possession

But the fates
the conditions of the fates
I am not defeated but
reasonable
need I apologize for being reasonable

RITUAL

Captured time and the consequents of time
for memory
for the appeasements of guilt and redemption
celebration
[mention purpose here]

Nature

and the capture of nature
on being

Religion tautology routine toothbrushing then the rest

Same time tomorrow

The ritual of driving down about an hour
across the Mississippi
to the convent
for the cinnamon bread the zucchini bread and the art on the walls

The morning news

Good sabbath
time and again
what is not mentioned

Symbolism the chalice the shared chalice the words
are not just what was said but are
when was said

The theatre the performer the actor the audience
not exactly maybe so

Goes on for hours and hours I lose myself exactly where I
am
but that is only anthropology
[they kept the oranges] [rightfully]

And whether ritual bends with contemporary popular culture
And whether formation and whether forced attendance [question]

The celebration has ended let us go in peace to Denny's

THE SYMBOLS ASSOCIATED WITH NATURE

Like astronomy's constellations
nature's terrestrial forms acquire cultural meanings

I saw a caterpillar then and then and then
coincidence
but the thought of metamorphosis

But the giant cicada after a morning's rumination
and the hawk that flew at my window as I was driving
and the three turkeys that day
and the hummingbird the owl the raven

And the plant I let grow from between two pieces of wood on my patio

Was the artists started an attention
brought a survey a character of nature to life
relevant

I could make a list
of creatures [then]
and whether to follow or say a human is its own form

The slow river

The adoption of a name

The catfish the bottomed catfish from the slow river
punished
among river clams

The deer with long faces on the island
strayed when the water was ice and stayed
no predators there just campers with cameras
docile

The aspen stand

Wine

The testimony of the birds the habits of the birds the deception of
the birds

Is a rationalist's burden
but love is not rational I say
not in the beginning anyway

The weight of mutual existence is
their understanding

The burden of love
is a song on the burden of love a bad song
that hits the top forty

The robot did the laundry
the robot paid the bills
the robot made dinner and washed the dishes
the robot cleaned the bathrooms including the toilets
the robot cleared the snow from the walk
the robot went to work

The robot forgave
the robot wrote a poem
the robot figured the summer vacation
the robot explained
the robot sat motionless without hearing
the robot tempered the imagination

The robot started the conversation

The robot blew a kiss

The robot made coffee

The burden of love
requires the robot be plugged in every night

Requires programming and instruction

The burden of love
is a commercial fantasy

The burden of love is wondering how it will end

The borne words of the writer
the borrowed violence
the creative invention of the forms of violence
the independent bookstore
kept the sounds of the library next to the register

O tranquil
that is in the peace section
the other side of cooking

And whether to claim the authority of violence
without reference
off the page and without reason attached like the self governance
associated with the legalization of marijuana
ultimately
one guides themselves
maybe
and whether to regard what is not retributive but just an act
hateful
or a social experiment

The bully
the minded bully at the picnic table
known in junior high for slugging people in the stomach without notice
now
just sitting there
I might say tranquil but I just happened by
could have been I suppose

Institutional violence the use of force
the staged violence of theatre
the poet the violent poet said so the unmarketable poem
the elderd violence of falling in the bathtub
the violence of anger the violence of words

And were it quietest
the eddied water
after
tranquil and unresolved
nor yet contemplative

DEPENDS

After time

a maturity of one faith or another
upon which
after time
one has lived in one way or another died in a way
expecting or otherwise said completion

And were it willful like predetermination to want
heaven
thus the curse of ritual and listening
to the foundations of promise were there conditions

And were it willful like predetermination to want
a bodily reincarnation
among what is important
and were there an establishment an institutional establishment
with frescoes and peace and
methods and times
an order to curiosity
to the foundations of promise
were there conditions

Depends

Nothing but nature (Ogden Nash)
is easy disqualifies speculation disregards
the passions including love [but keep love silent]
[swat away nature for the passions]
no
do not disregard the passions
what was it she spoke [this time]

The terminal the rational
after time
were family what legacy to say time is faith
unconsidered

And what practice for their mourn
were death's achievement socially mourned

[is a cloth]

FOR ITS SIZE IT IS FRAGILE

O how small you are for your size

How fragile

Were they not listening were they themselves
only

Swallowed but not digested

Batik

Alternating day and night

Supposing creation

First

Give me back my education
inwhich

Sometimes luck exists

Without a mention of probabilities

The numbers entered the corpus callosum traveled to the other side
back and forth the letters were already there
saying
mother

What was it the axon said
now and again
impulse
synapse dendrite hunger song mourn
smells like marshmud teen spirit

What science
I remember

Pathology

Where the soul does dwell may or may not be mapped

The reptilian interior the sleeve of the mammal

The exercise of learning response
a simplified gray matter
aphasia
drool incontinence

Where it was I love you
the region

Put into a jar for a hundred years a numbered label
a shelf
behind the necromancer
looking out a window from behind a walnut desk
cold coffee

MORNING WOKE

The causality of certainty
I allow for distractions
darkness goes away reliably
and then

Morning woke
into a new and righteous day
listen to
the pregnancy of peace

Stay or I shall stay where I am invited
replacing space
replacing the nocturns of space
with daylight and shadows

The echo
sounded
call nature call nature
I am not looking for a way to make sense

Call the midwife call the doula
peace is near
like the heart
it is the only way

And when the other sounded like the president
run
even if we are tired and making comfortable [things]
run

For purpose
and the strategies of purpose
and the destinations of want
may not have a name

But say anyway time again as yesterday
quietly
hold me [day]
just like where I have been

OLD MAN

What is left but sight
but history
and the slowness of history

It is they who prove your autonomy
but autonomy is nothing
when one is alone

The wind
and the scattered morning showers
the others were playing basketball in the park

The car just a car
the others were grocery shopping were changing
the others were riding bicycles and changing

The poem to all good people of convenience

Is a song
no
I do not care to change you and you
no
I do not care to want what is already wanted
no
I do not care to stay for never having left
no
I do not care to eat a pastrami sandwich
today

The ears grow large into age
yes
she is as lucky as I

And explaining better than I had considered
how the several become one and how the one become several
I am not required to understand