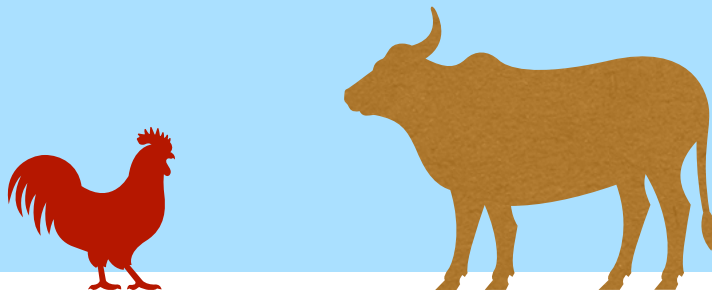


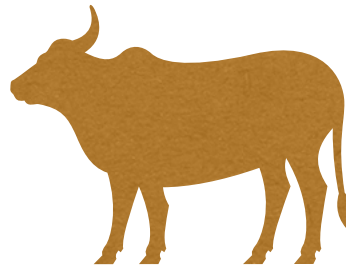
*FICTION*



Gregory Markee

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protoHouse — prity lights  
Madison

1

Fiction is a social euphoric

o somber truth

I have been thinking about opposites I have been thinking about the invisible  
the impractical

The joke

returned redundantly

until the smiles washed away their beginnings

Dinosaurs are not fiction I have seen an image

the space between deception and fiction is two hundred forty eight thousand  
miles

I believe

in whales in clouds in stars in birds that sing I believe

in bottom dwelling lake animals I believe in faith

2

Am I required to know

truth as the cause of disbelief

sobriety is science sobriety is first cause sobriety is winter

the square of a room held intentions but intentions are not enough

sobriety is sobriety

And there was an elephant with eight arms four on each side

sitting

cross legged

saying confidence but something other than truth but something other than lie

just when

the moon abandoned the night as is intended

and so much louder the tapestry of the clear night

Fantastic

there are limits to how large one's head becomes

one is expected to know limits

to know the difference between savagery and self reliance

the character of a question and

sarcasm

3

Gone fishing

for answers gone mining for answers

said the comedian

truth is combustible and an opposite is as informative  
 what is not said  
 truth has many opposites are we talking about the same [thing]  
 let us say together [pasta]  
 and without a sound but silverware on china  
 and then  
 we can set up the microphone in the living room and talk

4

Myth and the imagination foundations of religion  
 that without evidence the unempirical

An alien was unable to give me its full name  
 a language barrier  
 happened on the first full moon of spring it was a clear night

It was a dark and stormy night  
 too wet and too late for archaeology I suppose a story will suffice  
 about the stag got its antlers caught in the lower branches of a tree  
 the sportsman would have arrowed it under normal conditions  
 but now  
 grant me a wish and I will help release you  
 okay said the stag with no other choice  
 so the hunter closed his eyes then took a full breath then  
 proceeded to release the stag  
 gone  
 it went away gone without a word  
 now the hunter was not superstitious except for the idea of karma  
 got home sure enough  
 there was a fruit basket and a bottle of table wine at his front door  
 sure enough

The absurd the theatre of the absurd  
 there were talking animals talking in english  
 one goat said to the other goat  
 are you going to tell her  
 well somebody must  
 farmer havens we are leaving you it has been good but we are leaving you  
 going to the hills  
 going to reclaim our native voices and live peaceably  
 that is all

A thing about talking animals is different than

a thing about talking physical objects  
 and the persistent question about psychiatric health  
 but it is a museum  
 and the substitution of dreams for language is a logical exchange  
 the curator  
 [spoke]

Is a righteous fable stands a test of time called folk lore  
 the oral tradition of pictographs is different than  
 the symbolic tradition represented in the actual pictograph  
 is reinterpreted at intervals  
 as public attention demands a visit  
 and as the brilliance of a newly decorated archaeologist sees fit  
 the archaeologist becomes the chief folklorist but not really  
 [defer]  
 to the elders descended from the makers of the graffiti  
 thus  
 about a fire  
 like reclamation

5

And if it were a lie to mention the unsubstantiated  
 the question of substance presents itself  
 the nominal position of science plants it feet again and again

I return to herbalism

And if it were a lie to invent the unsubstantiated  
 may be a question of recreation may be a question of folly  
 may be a question of possibility  
 may be a claim to the first phenomenal treatise of  
 shooting stars

What do you care to hear me say about the oil in the water well

Defamation slander and the joust of best friends  
 is a prompt to an elevated defamation

What do you care to hear me say about your acne  
 I can hardly tell

Well

what do you care to hear me say about that smell is that you

Science is a list

6

Science is a list calls itself truth

The fact  
of the matter  
what is the matter

Exists among the compounds of properties physical properties  
and kronos

It is a matter of scientific engagement as compulsory  
leads one to declare a secondary material evidence  
an opposition to dogma and the facts of dogma can never be realized  
because  
the station a man carries himself the station a woman carries herself  
is precedent to what is thought about

Ways  
and the invention of fiction consistent with  
the proper amount of truth  
such as that which is no burden to carry and  
are no burden to a pleasures and normalcy necessary  
for going about a day

And for what language has not become  
an invention of words

Word

Like fiction like nonfiction like poetry and what else  
assumes

7

The storyteller  
defined a history started with creation and the invention of dinosaurs  
and speculation to mention truth  
[plausibility] plausibility is enough given  
a present system connecting time with time

Say theory is theory and less certain

evidentiary and speculative

And of the future or were it said 'the futures'  
say theory is theory and less certain  
evidentiary and speculative

Twilight as day ending twilight as night beginning

And were it metaphor and were it simile  
as an illustration of truth which is no truth if consumed literally

That  
is for poets and who is not a poet and who is not reclaiming  
poetics

8  
A subtle faith from grandma  
say proverb  
just because you believe something does not mean it is true

Cause for discern possibly  
or to defer to the source based upon the trust it holds upon me  
veracity  
audacity  
general common sense

And were it a valve to say fiction and the necessity of fiction  
a different release than a painted version of  
lust

And were it a curiosity to say fiction

And were it intuitive  
the nature of speculative fiction is an airborne car  
with a driver wearing a coonskin hat

And were fiction a social commentary

And were fiction an imaginary room  
with talking clocks and candles with flames which leave their candles

A subtle faith requires some discern  
and to peck about a story like pleasure perhaps

fiction is a list like science is a list

9

The good book  
for when the walls are listening [but not really]

There is a greater truth in interpretive perspective  
one way and another

The salt of the earth  
the remains of the day

And the position of madness and the position of lust  
regard an indirections of truth a selective truth

And who will live honestly settled  
into a language without figures

The good book for its wellness to interpretation  
a school is started upon a declared foundations

In a thousand years there are seeds restless seeds  
still asking

To hold oneself above language above certainty  
what is not true [then]

And if it were the first to say contradiction  
let them consider time let them consider waste

And if it were autumn when it were actually spring  
and if it were dawn when it were dusk

10

And it is only social  
disregards a firmer truths of numbers and materials

For there is little debate excepting among ascetics  
a fixed nature

The poet and that which is something other than a poet  
both listen [to the night] [differently receiving]



And for that which is socially custodial  
 what music is productivity and the temperance of productivity

11

There are many languages there are many disciplines  
 the language of education [Scheffler] the language of medicine

And without an organic growth  
 what but a stalled vocabulary a stalled ideas

A conceptual introduction is first realized  
 practically demonstratively contemptuously

Is a definitive question of the nature of truth  
 shall we agree time is the measure of importance

Fiction is no standard excepting a demonstration of  
 possibility

What has never happened but to mention a plausibility  
 of which one can believe or no

A lesson in measured truth a lesson in discern  
 where am I being taken voluntarily

12

And to put a lens to the truthfulness of a poem  
 A granted reputation of the poet

The expectations of poetry cannot be so neatly defined  
 for what is apparently fiction is otherwise demonstrative

Can a poem be forgiven for its shallowness  
 including when it is not shallow when it is not [just] a list

For to know  
 reason is best arrived at independently

The poem and no  
 I had not been taken by the idea of mutual respect

It is only common to regard the common  
 the exceptional force of nature and my position is uncommon

The fiction poem the ethereal fiction poem  
 may have never happened and were it untrue [question]

Is a separate question as to a literacy of a reader  
 is a separate question of invention

I looked the other way at what is not called truth  
 I used the word [new]

13

What anchors an allowable measure to a reader's imagination  
 I am suspended  
 in the fertility of the city you have constructed  
 accounts for all of my questions  
 excepting why you never leave  
 it must be love  
 I am left with  
 for there is no want no tantrum no diffidence

And it is no fiction to mention the nature of beauty as if  
 my heart were written in several ways though  
 reason and the grounds of reason from which  
 I can say anything  
 yet to appear on a bookstore shelf in the fiction section

And the outright monster with one horn and warted skin  
 hooves for feet and gangly hands but  
 a beautiful voice a lovely voice for the church  
 and a comely personality  
 how are you not true  
 as am I

14

Again the storyteller with the same story verbatim  
 managed a classroom every day  
 the same story like a prayer like a password  
 is it faith I give to the author  
 take me some place with stone spires and people who  
 build stone spires  
 for no reason  
 I would like to hear a conversation among the youngest and the oldest  
 and why there is no question of purpose

And how a person dies  
 and were it directive for a reader to address death  
 for it is no subject to avoid  
 and a fictional death is not somber however  
 yet a lesson in frailty in accidentalism or what else  
 a lesson in thoughtful consideration  
 or  
 turn the page

15

Consider the person who only speaks fiction  
 because of a childhood trauma  
 and an audience familiar with her practice  
 to recognize her as gifted in a way which is  
 metaphorical and undemanding  
 or rather an audience who is not familiar with the speaker  
 is left to qualify every statement as well as  
 an invention of an entirety of a story itself

Consider a book on ancient social history  
 consider speculative nonfiction  
 consider a family in such an ancient condition  
 diet is assumed habitat is assumed dwellings are assumed  
 what is not assumed  
 habits  
 language  
 faith  
 and upon what is not known  
 interspersed with an evidentiary knowledge which exists  
 say fiction  
 may or may not be entertainment  
 yet leaves a reader a segmented culture to observe and  
 it may be near impossible to tell what is fiction

Consider how fiction may be a mention of possibility  
 particularly science fiction in which  
 engines and flying things and space travel  
 are birthed as ideas found on a bookshelf  
 including the scientist himself is appropriated  
 with laboratory and appearance and proper education  
 including the way a gold rush is presented to  
 those who may be vulnerable to such ideas

including a presented information of fearfulness  
epidemics and wars and poverty and loss of liberty  
warrant one stays near to home in the interest of safety

16

Is the president mentions prosperity  
in what form  
why

The difference between lie and fiction and the messages of a spin doctor

Numbers and the application of numbers the selective report of  
numbers

The reception of fiction may be recreational  
[I enjoy your intellectual tumors]

Fiction is a parallel universe fiction is a parallel language

17

What of the imagination never spent

never written

never acted upon I say impossible

the foreseeable future expects some generalization

and best practice may be a matter of trial and error

and were fiction imaginary perhaps no

as an imaginary spells of experience may be unproven

nor presently false as fiction is false [asterisk]

likewise the imagination

dependent upon a foundations of memory and experience

and conceptual thought

and the vessels which bubble fiction from within

declare in subtle fashion at least a germ of truth

a thread of truth

between the writer actual and his craft

and an imagination carried with such a measured truth

18

The novel

and with no historical reference and lighted from philosophy

and the other foundations

and why a quarantine a designation to a body

which better serves without a frame

I assume

a history of fiction is a history of the written word

in the interest of the limits of truth

in the interest of popular thought

in the interest of vocation

in the interest of logical refutation

in the interest of speculation

in the interest of governance and or social control

a literary exercise and the development of school schools

a collective thought is driven by

a presented nature and a social possibilities within

and marvel upon an illustrated universe

The novel is

a man talking to himself

19

And a poem

submitted

20

Every day she walked to the mail box

three in the afternoon

she tied her shoes and put on a scarf

shuffled to the end of the walk by herself as her dog died a year prior

still carries the leash

looks up  
 more rain I suppose  
 in the mailbox junk mail but good junk mail  
 grocery coupons useful the usual  
 and a note from the friendly neighbor about an excess of garden tomatoes  
 paused a brief moment inhale  
 more rain I suppose  
 wandered back to the interior

21

Whether fiction is benign  
 whether fiction is mundane

And whether a memorialization of an old story  
 I have heard  
 is cause I address my own life style

And whether I finish a book a good book  
 that which is called a good book  
 from a loud and reputable source  
 or to lay it down in the interest of a less interpreted  
 truth  
 is a reader's [decision]

Ask why a writer writes  
 self flagellation self worship  
 an exploration of imaginary possibilities  
 a recording a registration of thought  
 an interest in one's own legacy  
 social service perhaps

Whether truth as imaginarily concocted can exist  
 without reference to actual experience

Whether fiction need be defined  
 but to say  
 that which is not fiction is certainly categorical  
 say history and the varieties of history  
 say the regular academic disciplines as well as the irregular  
 fiction transcends definition as it should except in a bookstore

The fiction recommendation  
 supposes some categorical definition

just enough for interest the publisher

22

Objectivity and literature and to what ends  
 what are not lies  
 and have never happened  
 is a religious force  
 and whether a logical way to a story an argument  
 yes  
 fiction can be rational  
 fiction can be irrational

Objectivity and the New York Times Review of Books  
 criteria

there is a lesson here  
 the despot  
 the career criminal  
 the protagonist  
 the story of a little girl run away from home  
 with water and peanut butter and jelly sandwich in her backpack  
 and a candle and matches  
 she knew she should not have brought the matches the candle  
 it was her father always lit them at home  
 stored the matches high up on the mantle  
 she needed a chair  
 sure enough as she was eating she bumped the lit candle  
 started the dry pine needles ablaze  
 the wind carried the flames east  
 and she ran west  
 found her way home guilty  
 no property damage but about ten forested acres  
 twenty years later she told her therapist

23

Implausibility and plausibility  
 is a different question than truth or the opposite of truth  
 is a different question than fact or fiction

The believability of tornadoes  
 is better understood in a geographic space where tornadoes occur  
 likewise a sentiment for hurricanes in literature  
 but

Dare me to love tornadoes and hurricanes  
 dare me to love an unfamiliar acts of god  
 or fear such phenomena  
 convince me of possibility by way of significance  
 to me

Implausibly the butterfly set down upon the soil  
 turned into an angel  
 a measure of truth to a sort  
 but irrational like an immaculate conception is irrational  
 do I say  
 a suspended reality is an allowance to  
 a measured variety of goodnesses

Implausibly the genie from the styrofoam cooler  
 granted three wishes because  
 he was drunk  
 perhaps  
 more plausible to say the genie came from  
 a brass lamp after it was rubbed  
 and had not eaten in a thousand years

24

The plausible  
 is familiar  
 is logical is rational is reasonable  
 and for a story is memorable [significant]

Down to earth  
 with proper context and details and motive  
 inspired by actual events  
 down to earth

The plausible may recite the details of a scrambled egg breakfast  
 so what  
 but it is part of the story [because]  
 it is written  
 [just ask the editor]

In good faith an author is to be trusted  
 please do not varnish your story unnecessarily  
 and who receives such resonation  
 but a local readers who can and do verify



an imaginary environment which is not imaginary

The plausible  
 reference nature reference the seasons  
 reference a common pain reference a common hardship  
 reference good fortune reference a common love

25

Dreams and the interpretation of dreams  
 true as history speculative as determination  
 or  
 to say a quiet spectacle a quiet entertainment while I sleep

Truth in dreams as if  
 it were a substance like numerology is a substance  
 or astrology  
 left to an observer left to oneself  
 the truth of the matter is not the dream itself  
 it is a warning it is a wish  
 and what meaning is gathered from artificial experience

Were [it] true like history is true and  
 were [it] true like a moral of a story

The interpretation of dreams is a confidence  
 I see  
 and were the theater fiction  
 with a familiar cast with a familiar environment  
 a kernel  
 of truth  
 which may or may not resound

Falling water and talking butterflies ha  
 the conversation with the new friend but silent and staring now  
 playing ping pong naked

And say fiction or form a separate category for thought  
 a dream is inherently true  
 it just requires appropriation  
 then it were not fiction upon such a faith but  
 to call a dream a dream is to say summary  
 and with no relation to entertainment

The truth of the dream  
 true or reasonably true or fiction  
 is what arrives after one wakes and is showering  
 interpretation and application and direction  
 or curiosity because

26

As for a believability a plausibility of dreams  
 so too the institution of written fiction

The interpretive address follows  
 or were it recreation  
 or were it model for the future

What can be said of a reader depends on  
 the reader's own experience including prior readings

And were fiction speculative philosophy  
 like an ambition or like a warning  
 ask if a story can be taken lightly and without  
 a need to form a difficult social position or solution

The believability of written fiction assumes  
 a craft of the story teller  
 upon which I am wandered through at my own pace

The interpretive address when the book is completed  
 if I feel like it or  
 start another or  
 write my own

27

The Fiction is a house of imaginary absurdities  
 I went there once on my way home from piano camp  
 spoke to the admissions rabbit  
 said four carrots for entry and eight carrots for exit but  
 I will let you in free if you play the steinway  
 for the elephant family

The elephant family had traveled from rhodesia you see  
 remarking all the way about  
 fun

No thank you and apologies to the elephants  
regrettably having no fingers to play the piano themselves  
you see  
I came for the counsel of the bats

That will be four carrots please

28

The subtle  
wind  
and the sun let away the day  
night is a different

Sound

The mother tripped on a root on the way to the mailbox  
expecting a secret decoder ring  
for her husband

Oof

29

An audi married a volkswagen  
a glorious ceremony  
and to share a garage [such a garage]  
until rust do us part

30

Yes  
one animal to another  
there is no one really calls themself an animal  
it is for when we act out of character  
[animal]

Suppose a conversation between crickets  
suppose an intellectual capacity of crickets  
self determination  
you sir are no animal  
but you are inhuman and what is inhuman is animal

No

the animal is not talking to the human

that is why

31

Talking animals do not make sense  
said the housemouse  
why do they not just get a job

32

I tire of the blue sky  
let it rain I say  
on me  
on everything I own  
and when it is done the blue again

Let it rain on our parade let it rain on our garden

The clouds creep in the clouds crept in  
but that is only procedural  
that is only the way  
say god

In one hour the front  
silenced the birds silenced me

Quick

did you say something important  
before it started

33

The space program included a literary component  
poetry actually

May be a question of purpose  
but the liberal arts at the university  
even for the engineers the biologists  
and that is only an argument

34

License  
to drive to marry  
License as something other than freedom  
license to exercise freedom  
no

natural rights and the rights of the hawk  
natural rights and the rights of the terrestrial animals  
the bear the wolf

I

natural rights and the rights of heavy machinery  
the coal pit  
the extensions of the body and license  
[locus]  
the extensions of the mind and license  
[ken]  
no

35

Who is it  
thought religion  
defeated

The chalice will not fill itself

Nor the prayer without knowing  
(T)

36

Poets are liquid  
assume the shape of their containers

The poet the container builder  
the colors of the room  
put

And what it does upon the soul  
when there is no window  
but a thought of window

Poets are stationary the road  
travels beneath my feet  
travels beneath the wheels of my bicycle

Poetry is no experiment  
but as a question this

What poetry considers of its own production  
the poet is method  
the liquid poet is method

the poet is method  
and then it is done

37

The adventurer and the creator  
the hardness of one's own discipline is  
harder than that of others  
experience and the lines of experience

In the forest  
the echoing birds  
the color of light  
through which all shall pass because  
there is only one way listen  
when the puff of wind  
through the leaves

The exterior of oneself  
the surface  
makes no mention of what rests within  
the process the wheels listen  
to what has no voice

The picture of war  
translation

38

A deer  
ten yards from my patio  
I this morning  
let me stare at it  
looked back a long time I do not know how long  
of a gaze  
wandered into a deeper brush

I have seen them in the past  
four at a time traveling

Habitat  
fertility

39

Apologies I can go no further

the chain link fence and I am not inclined to climb  
it is I am curious  
because of the fence  
because of the fence at the end of the trail  
with the lock

40

The legitimacy of the crow

Has been established in time like the legitimacy of a personality

Hop crow hop [Harjo]

A grand swoop to the earth

Hop crow

Joker caw I have a method for you

Will you answer me tease

The nature of the others are they aware

41

One hundred billion trillion stars  
I counted  
every one is equal to a language

The consumption of space requires language

And someone to love or hate  
to share it with

42

The space program  
is on channel three

43

A letter to the bottle washer  
We begin the recycling programme on monday  
please begin placing the emptied bottles in  
the appropriate disposal/recycling container  
The fresh bottles will arrive biweekly and

will need to be properly placed in  
the fresh bottle racks for regular use  
Thank you

44

The witch's recipe for hair loss:  
four fingers of pond water in the common glass  
two spider webs  
four crickets  
one earthworm  
a good spit  
two psilocybin mushrooms  
a lock of lambswool

Allow concoction to rest in a dark place for seven nights  
at sunrise after the seventh night  
remove the mushrooms and strain the mixture  
eat the mushrooms while saying your favorite two words  
wait two hours  
drink the liquid in front of a mirror  
look yourself in the eyes  
the remaining ingredients can be discarded or  
placed in a food processor with a placenta to be  
scattered in the garden

45

The protest began simply, that is why it was so popular. A man had been miserably treated by a person of authority and it was captured on an audio recording. It could have been anyone really, it could have been me. Do we all not answer to some common direction; and to recognize how easily [that] example happens is to recognize my own circumstance.

They started at the train tracks and walked north on main street in the direction of the bridge. The idea was to block traffic and make the bridge impassable. The bridge was chosen by the sister of the varnished victim because it is the main path between the over rational governor's office and most of the city's neighborhoods.

Five days the protest lasted, mostly because no people were traveling the road because they were home quarantined over a deadly epidemic, and the governor was working at his residence. Also they were having a good time; they brought tents and coolers and grills. The evening conversations were about peace and humidity and citizenship. And then everyone went home.



46

The airplane overhead  
 the sun air commute to chicago  
 a trail beneath the clouds  
 and a parachutist lept  
 dangled to the earth  
 in the park I was standing in  
 barbecuing  
 [just something]

47

Distant winter all of this will be put down  
 at rest  
 the clock  
 it is june and I am hungry acquiring I am hungry seeing  
 the indents of labor are callous to my spirit  
 say certainty  
 I will carry through until I wait  
 for spring again

48

The tree the cellulose tree meant for paper  
 the tree farm  
 the paper airplane lofted from the canyon wall  
 the green orb papier mache head with punchy eyes  
 bald  
 the philosophy of education assignment  
 the conifer the tree farm darkness in the orchard  
 where did you go  
 I was taking pictures

49

The space of lies the outer space  
 where the eyes twitch  
 and frequent sneezes  
 distract me  
 from honesty you were saying come down  
 okay

50

Little cigarettes for little creatures little filters left about  
 too small for nest building birds to find useful

but how adjusted they are how committed  
a chipmunk with yellow teeth and a squirrel puff  
the hoppy rabbits all in a circle talking current events puff  
the opossum sneaking one like guilt puff  
o  
what am I

51

The tranquility superimposed upon the dark figure  
is a light blue  
he was hungry and with questions  
that were answered

52

In the space of an hour there were eleven phone calls  
all data collectors data this data that  
the statistician with the straw hat not a banker's leather visor  
a straw hat with a turkey feather  
tell me  
do you eat meat  
who will you vote for in the november election  
what level of education have you completed  
do you think statistics are a useful contribution to society  
when was the last time you used the public library

The summary pen  
a categorical witness explains  
the application of numbers to yes no questions  
curiously

Yes yes

53

Suppose an interest in rain  
walking in the rain then  
skygazing the drama of the clouds  
how the mind wanders likewise  
internally  
unto small things and large things and ideas  
it is still raining  
[return]

54

I love you  
 heard at a bakery  
 sincere  
 I believed it as I ate the cinnamon raisin bagel with plain cream cheese  
 give them a little room

55

Anchored at the top the surface  
 anchored at the bottom  
 taut like security  
 but that is only metaphor  
 really  
 I tell myself that is only metaphor but not really

Security drifted between two points  
 I will not go far  
 wondering  
 what is competitive and what makes others compete  
 when they are alone and wanting to be alone

56

The difference she mentions  
 between you and I  
 besides what makes us man and woman is  
 the thing the indeterminate thing  
 you carry  
 and what I carry and  
 our secrecies about such things

57

When they find out we are just regular  
 they may leave  
 they asked for money last time they found out we were just regular  
 I gave them a bicentennial quarter  
 told them it was lucky but I had no attachment to luck  
 just a few fetishes I liked to look at  
 regular is not so bad  
 grocery shopping and chatting with the neighbors social things  
 I do not tell just anyone I love you  
 regular among the regular now that is something  
 regular regular  
 next time  
 I will offer a regular quarter without looking at the date

58

In the event of make believe turbulence  
 practice  
 the hail mary

In the event of actual turbulence  
 close your eyes and grip the arm rests  
 count

59

Fiction is make believe  
 inclusive of nonfiction

I built a city of marble with walls with doors  
 not too tall  
 with hydrogen busses and rooftop gardens  
 everyday I saw her  
 thinking  
 maybe flowers

60

The raft washed up on shore  
 and a body nearby  
 late in the day  
 tomorrow  
 I will bury him in the sand  
 naked

Maybe they will come for me  
 yet  
 I will tell them  
 take me home to die I wish but not here  
 where it is only beauty  
 and unfamiliar

A sunken vessel is mine  
 swept overboard in a storm with a barrel  
 of water  
 the sun and the moon  
 trees like an all inclusive resort  
 and a body nearby I do not know  
 his story

tomorrow  
I will bury him in the sand

61  
Question  
are dreams fiction or nonfiction  
are dreams thought  
is thought nonfiction like philosophy  
is thought nonfiction like poetry  
which contains the other philosophy or poetry  
is there a categorical necessity to thought  
question  
are dreams fiction or nonfiction  
yes

62  
Cause and effect

I cannot breathe

I will die

The knee

63  
Early in the morning  
just a car passes and it is quiet  
but for a single damn loud bird

And I cannot whistle I never could really  
just then  
the sky allows itself notice good morning

People are not the sky they never have been  
they come from the interior  
growing into the sky learning language and volume

64  
The light of the radio the volume just a trickle  
midnight dark all of the lights turned off but the kitchen behind  
I cannot sleep and I cannot pretend to sleep

The book of paleontology is the driest I own

and signed by the author in the interest of vanity  
and the Anais Nin book is the wettest I own

My eyes bounce from the shelves to the unlit candle to the radio  
back to the ceiling again  
insomnia is an observed breath

Insomnia is a burrito insomnia is a shower in the middle of the night  
insomnia is a bundled sheets insomnia is when the sheeps have been counted  
insomnia is a little blue substance insomnia is vanity

65

A gentle walk to the convenience store without intentions  
put the mask on to enter  
the virus is very very small floats around the air  
if you suck it in it will turn your toes purple as if  
they were hit with rubber bullets  
that is what the center for disease control said  
a gentle walk home  
sandals

66

Prove to me the difference between you and me  
grape juice is an aphrodisiac  
the gold letter opener from toledo spain  
what is true and what makes me believe it is true  
when there is no evidence  
I was turned on and I did not tell you  
how the clouds do that to me when we are alone

67

Fast food has a reputation of girth  
married to a fountain drink  
a cod and haddock diet  
fried

The happy meal was an unexpectedly pleasing meal  
with a toy  
a top

68

Once inside the art museum  
the doors close the iridescent lights the posture of the curator

this one is unicorn on black velvet  
this one is nude on black velvet  
this one is lunchbox with ham sandwich on black velvet

Are they protesting again  
oh

69  
Another day  
all of the police in a row  
arm in arm

70  
Another day  
all of the police in a row  
on horses  
horse shoulder to horse shoulder  
facing resistance  
a chain link between  
a supremacists behind  
saying supremacy

In the rain

71  
On whether myth is fiction  
but what higher purpose to truth  
the woman on the bird's back  
actually  
I have never seen such a thing  
her eyes were closed  
and appeared to embrace her carrier  
taken  
and taken

The same higher purpose as poetics  
the same higher purpose as  
metaphor  
as fable  
as bedtime story

There is a lesson in sustainable air travel  
there is a lesson in

communion with nature

The mythic features the mythic language of this world  
 o lament  
 what will never be  
 but imaginary lesson

72

The boys  
 in the car sixteen years old just driving

Into the future  
 coming and going  
 to college and marriage and children and war and peace

Soon it will be night  
 like an oyster is consumed

73

The boys  
 good and old  
 not really enjoying the cigar

I never did develop a taste for bourbon  
 drink it all the same

Take the suit off after the day

74

The museum profit margin  
 joy value has increased twenty percent this quarter  
 shock value is stagnant  
 libidinal urge value remains personal  
 mythic faith value is constant as it has been and will ever be

75

The remnants of civilization  
 this is now something other  
 than civilization  
 with remnants of history  
 and in such a postcivilized world  
 archaeologists are monarchs are beats  
 understanding the value of wheels



and barbecue grills  
 understanding the value of starting one and another religions  
 and giving them names  
 that they may some day fall

76

The social contract of the goon  
 were the goon inseparable from gooniness

Hold a baton  
 as to the merits of bonking  
 those without baton

Ask what is the voice for they shall listen  
 to those with a baton

Do we not stand clustered shoulder to shoulder  
 with black shoes

And were a discipline called discipline  
 rather social strategy employed  
 endowed  
 by a public funding source ultimately  
 right

Bonk

The social contract of the goon  
 [they said]  
 in which [they] is the authority of authority  
 endowed  
 by a public funding source ultimately  
 right

The social contract of the goon  
 is a discretionary loophole in  
 the constitution of the united states of america  
 in which  
 memorable force is rationalized is justified

Enter philosophy  
 were gooniness to exist were it not  
 endowed

and the least greatest application of  
 the baton  
 is its formalization

Who hurt you

77

Divisiveness and the animal kingdom  
 whether humans are animals  
 whether pets are animals  
 whether barnyard animals are animals  
 whether animals are dependent on humans  
 one bird is prettier than another  
 the jealous cock the jealous hummingbird  
 the jealous rhinoceros the territorial rhinoceros  
 the sequestered mother and child  
 the governor of worms and the underworld

78

Established  
 to have counted one's years for memory  
 o fondly say  
 might is better intended for the horse  
 tis reason for now [for now I say]  
 and I am not reluctant to regard your beauty  
 is our same age  
 [kiss]

79

The features of an arbitrary religion nor arbitrary  
 a goat  
 a sacred object  
 a communal meeting place  
 language  
 memory

80

At having been displaced  
 a word [darn] or [I was on a roll]  
 the accountancy of forced independence is  
 cause for selfism  
 I wonder  
 loss is wondering that for which there is no control

I wonder  
if goodwill is hiring

81

Capital  
the money grab  
medicine is a reasonable profession  
virology gastroenterology  
ology  
geology is not medicine is a reasonable profession  
what is not reasonable  
the money grab collecting quarters collecting dimes

And were it more reasonable to live off the land  
and without token economy  
and without radio to note  
current affairs  
who does not matter who is insignificant  
relative to  
saving myself  
the grocer

Capital  
is a box of coins

What is the measure of reason  
but to forget reason itself  
exchanging coins in episodic fairness

82

I have begun to slur  
no I do not have epilepsy  
it is intentional

The woman at the convenience store spoke to the clerk for me  
he will have a slushee  
cherry

Yeth yeth [pointing] a bigwun

83

The friendly turkey in the bush  
he said [RM]

no turkeys cannot smile I do not know

hello  
all the same

84

The secret decoder ring and the ambition of the secret decoder ring  
is stuck with children because:

- 1] humor and clever come easier to children
- 2] the secret decoder ring takes a long time
- 3] adults can spy by reading minds

85

Breakfast on the south rim of the grand canyon  
yogurt with an aluminum spork and a thermos of coffee  
facing west  
this time  
the colors opening shadows the light creeping  
down into  
celestial

86

Random forest undergrowth  
a path  
through the flowers and fallen vegetation  
mosquitoes aggressive mosquitoes  
light twinkling through the trees

What can words do that an image cannot do  
ask  
words are naturally imaginary  
to tell the truth assume  
such a truth is received  
but a camera is no creation but a reflection

The stage  
is a forest  
the audient  
with a camera  
a smell is not recorded I say the mosquitoes

87

She wore an old dangled sight from her ear

amber  
a thousand year old gnat in a silver setting  
jiggled when she walked

88  
The history with perforated lines  
were a morality attached  
a recommendation  
there is a reason the historian's attention  
is directed

Because of early learning  
the historian's attention to  
the development of the automobile  
the internal combustion engine

Is a brown buick station wagon  
once went to a drive in theater  
backed into the spot opened the back gate  
blankets and popcorn the original star wars  
1977  
it was the summer

The history with perforated lines  
mentions with some certainty  
good and bad  
the fallibility of history mentions  
interpretation

They do not make them like they used to

89  
In the corner of the living room  
an allowance to the spider  
just  
do not have any babies

Eat the critters and watch movies with me

Would you like a name

90  
The one I touch when I reach out

is a question of sorts  
of the fallibility of telepathy stirred with intentions  
curiosity  
rolling over and sleeping

And were affection a minded ghost  
littled by its fiction for an elsewhere presence  
the physics of the matter is  
neurologically dusted  
with the idea one can be in more than one place at a time

And  
that is only imaginary like why

91  
The fast car and the grocery store  
on the way back  
and the medical face mask and the national guard  
and time  
down time

Were I to trade a story for a cheeseburger

The one about  
fixed stars falling from the sky like wishes

Pepperjack cheese

What will become of me when  
all of my questions are answered

Free association and the nature of modern media  
switching channels from the birds to silence  
to the inductive thought of the proper screensaver

The static

No you do not need to wear your mask at home

92  
The importance of winter  
ask spring  
there is a reason spring is fertile

like intelligent design  
 or adaptation  
 I do not wonder but say those new little white flowers  
 on the bush  
 I smell them gladly

And I am no bee but a friend of the bee

93

The little green neon beetle mounting the other little green neon beetle  
 was competitive I interpreted firstly  
 one chasing the other  
 early june is fertile  
 I assume the male is the chaser and the female stopped long enough  
 for him to catch her before separating and chasing again  
 mounting again

Were I to assume a postfertile period to a lifetime  
 the male  
 the female  
 reference the body

Social reproduction transcends a bodily parts  
 say  
 postfertility is when language is done  
 when sperm and eggs are done and when one is permanently at rest  
 receiving only

The grandpa and grandma green metallic beetle family  
 the legacy of  
 receiving

94

The alien without ears  
 a circular mouth  
 eyelids batting from sides to converge in the middle  
 gray skin covered in a silk fabric  
 nike shoes

The anthropologist without ears  
 a circular mouth  
 eyelids batting from sides to converge in the middle  
 gray skin covered in silk fabric

nike shoes

95

Eventually something matters  
the thing about character about authenticity about originalism  
is kept because  
one remembers from a perspective  
somewhere kept a unique thought  
a referential thought that is called  
once and again for reason

The barren solar system with no myth  
no life no reference  
but the rocks and the methane clouds and the melted glass were  
happy

Eternally  
that is all

Except for the childbearing meteor one day

96

The fictional painting [RG]  
for its title  
is a large bird mounted by an equal sized woman

I say  
fly

For there is no background no mountain no water no context  
all the better to  
fly  
without reason

And what of myth invented of boredom  
with no hero  
but yearning but possibility

I say  
fly

97

The decadence of the poet



the easy words

But they do not agree until they think about it a while  
 put a substance upon themselves  
 like error and fortune

Discern

98

That which references itself  
 this is equal to this  
 can only be itself  
 I cannot disagree for what I know  
 for what keeps its own  
 station its own being

99

And for what I believe I insist  
 and had I no authority to insist  
 I insist  
 and cannot help but insist

The silence of certainty is their curse  
 were the drama of truth a truth

Ask upon a faith were all things led to  
 truth telling  
 and there is no hurry required  
 because what is science exists  
 with and without me

100

Is algebra to say  
 the number one hundred is true  
 the number seventy five is false  
 but for poetry is easier  
 more direct  
 to say true and false  
 to say I love you instead of one thousand  
 to say hold me to say quarantine me

101

I will tell you what you want to hear

what you want me to say  
word for word  
requires no commitment beyond a momentary participation  
sure  
I will vote for you

102  
Poets get printed in one anthology  
then they die  
they had a good life

103  
In between the lines  
the subtle character of discretion  
really  
this book is subversive  
I will say twice  
this book is subversive  
for its numbers for its count

For what is silent

104  
The felony is indirection how they circle  
a memory which does not exist except  
ideally

The teacher  
the swarms of teachers the academy of teachers  
had never been introduced to  
the perforated lines of a good life  
thus lent no introduction

The bullion of thought

105  
The open microphone dripped form and content  
stained the wooden stage floor  
already stained from the last third thursday  
and before  
it will dry it will be written about  
like things that happen again and again  
for which there may or may not be an answer

106

Next to the mirror next to the clock next to the picasso  
 reproduction  
 the guitar  
 and the sound of the guitar

The drawn velvet curtains

The wandered mind camped in his head  
 in theory  
 the guitar is not a difficult instrument

The clock the metronome

107

And were I too old to receive the fundamental lesson that  
 adaptation is no curse that  
 were a conditions my own introduction  
 why [they] should not be the ones to change

Authority will let you fly away into yourself in fact  
 they may not even notice  
 but to say dragged I am like an ultimatum  
 into a nonspecific utopia like experiment

The parent the governor the microgovernor  
 one who applauds themself  
 at your appearance like it is their own  
 fact

As it is  
 reference nature upon a cycled disagreement  
 for there will always be trees  
 for there will always be a river

108

The artist checked her watch  
 sure enough  
 the birds came the national birds with little flags  
 right on time  
 then they left  
 right on time

She and her black and white pencils

And is it fiction to demonstrate  
their appearance with leaflets about nationalism  
on fifty pound paper  
when they were only chanting

109

The priest is not a priest just  
a lonely old man they say  
reads and reads

I think  
the one who said it was a lonely old woman  
eats her meals alone

Knits and knits and reads and  
prays

110

The stinger gone into the horse's neck  
the bee left to die

For the good of the colony

Did not bother the horse  
eating the apple from the tree

111

In god we trust

The vending machine accepted quarters of all denominations because  
there is one god  
to choose from

Coke

112

In the whisper of the early morning  
with the smell of yesterday's cut grass  
coffee  
the sky opens for sunrise and the conditions of sunrise

slow and deliberate  
rhythm

113

The force of tyranny aside the expression of metal  
and the intentions of money  
ambition is no pathos  
was it not darwin lamarck haeckel spencer  
tell me about your father

There is a problem  
you are too loud at night expressing material ways  
the neighbors moved to the edge of their nation out of fear  
and to get some sleep

The force of tyranny with its own words  
keep up she says  
we require for the common good  
something allegiance and a flag and a song we will memorize  
say nationalism and something more than nationalism

114

Nice day huh  
sorry I thought you were being friendly

115

Reincarnation  
are we going through this again  
the last time I lost my keys was down a sewer drain  
all so familiar  
hell is not so bad if the difficult spots can be stretched about  
made common  
of course I still love you  
ask me again

116

Air through the trees  
but not wind  
then it is quiet and air through the trees again

Sky through the trees  
when there are no traveling clouds o sky  
blue like an ocean through the trees o sky

117

Two more days  
before the monsoons  
address the surface  
quick

118

The filibuster lasted two years  
protest  
kept chattering about toothlessness and poetics

The one about uncles  
the one about personal wealth and volunteerism  
the one about space travel

The one about poster sign making  
who is the principal when there is no principal  
I am

Me too

119

The reluctance of sleep is a posture  
something will be missed  
and cause for anxiety to imagine  
tomorrow's destiny without a proper information

It is a dream an important dream  
displaced the stars  
it is a dream of the stars displaced the stars  
tomorrow is simple

120

A bag of groceries was left outside the car door  
drove away  
hungry  
was a box of raisin bran she said god knows where probably  
left outside the car door  
went back and sure enough a box of raisin bran  
and some juice and some cheese  
right there

121

The subtle italicized point of the matter is  
 man's inhumanity to man  
 positively countered in the philosophy of love

Was a symbol of virtue a statue  
 with its head removed by some local teens late one night  
 left on the steps of the principal's residence

Put a bronze turtle there for them to spray paint  
 something about heroes  
 something about the demonstrations of heroes

122

Escaping earth renaming earth there is a species for every two souls  
 the environment with water  
 to drink  
 do we get to choose  
 our language  
 hold it indifferently extended like love  
 for union for communion  
 for privacy for secrecy

The old forms are used up and all we do is eat and drink and sleep  
 in the houses our fathers and mothers made  
 but that is only reason  
 and it is I  
 travel into where I have always been within myself

The animal that has never seen an animal

123

Sleep deprivation a mangled sleep insomnia  
 curse the day  
 those damn sounds dump truck air horns and airplanes  
 curse the birds the chatty neighbors  
 curse midnight curse the thought of the moon

Now I lay me down to sleep dear god  
 try again  
 now I lay me down to sleep contrition and sheep and  
 a drink of water

124

The form of the shapeshifter without form  
 jello jelly  
 thinking  
 in what language  
 the world is calling

A lake of intentions

Answer no call is I  
 take my own proverbs like a bird like a hawk  
 a wolf  
 to see to fly

The address of the shapeshifter having assumed a form  
 is not exhausted  
 the poet  
 for today is different I see

125

The conjured demon smoked unfiltered cigarettes  
 it is a bad habit and expensive  
 wrote something about attachment to those who conjure  
 as if permission were necessary to  
 explain a proper response to injustice like poetry

No

but you forgot to shave today

126

Let us start a religious order  
 we can wear vests with patches  
 and meet at the public library  
 how do wednesdays sound

127

The spur in the hind quarters of the faster horse  
 the top of the ridge and down the other side

Dice

is its name for its spots

Open land open water open sky I forget



except for dice

128

This is friday  
are you the only one who can do what you do  
I think I will turn on the air conditioning  
make salmon  
on the grill  
do you have a word the others have not thought of  
do you have a question

Me too

129

They are not done yet  
the theory of middle age before they become grandparents  
man versus nature is benign  
[safe]

Do we not all require an other

The oil spill the deforestation but that was man

Plastic

They are not done yet  
wrapping their fish in banana leaves  
trapping and netting an abundant shellfish  
in theory they are just beginning

130

The brave man with the cane for thought  
outlived his children

Nothing is so important as [thinking]

Nothing is so important as his children

131

Approaching the continental divide  
as easy to say the continental divide is the mississippi river  
the highway the road the bridge the tunnel  
civilization on either side both

and in the rear view mirror the rising sun

132

It is going to be a good day  
I have decided

Today I shall receive

Today I shall  
wear my straw hat on a walk

Probably not purple I am a democrat

133

Stole my language  
put a dot com at the end of all my words  
to pass along  
like a commercial

O woe  
turned out the lights turned out the energy

There is an earlier fire  
bred lust and bread

To answer one's own questions is a moment  
just as true  
I have not decided what to do with the car

134

The curse of qualified freedom  
who does grant who does suppose

The spell of land is forty acres  
a cross

Put a hammock at creeks edge the cottonwoods  
put a garden

The conditions of prosperity are forgotten  
maybe

Ask another question

not that one

Ask the one about financial security  
the one about service