

free syllable haiku: peahen feather

greg markee

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m a d i s o n

friday the 13th, 2021
expressionism were received
the idea

and I gathered paint and
I gathered ink
made of squid defense

is not
all defense
self defense

superstition and the
superstition of superstition
were a question

the syllabic nature of
poetry
were defined

and of the peace pipes
I have not smoked

the fungus on the tree
shelf fungus
near where I hang my bird feeder

a note on my hand
waterman black ink
press a palms together to blot

on the interpretation of art
material art is a frame
framed

first walnut of the season
august 9
on the grass

stone chimera
wings and horns and hands and hooves and
penis

predatorial birds and small mammals
predation may or may not be edibility

absurdism
so rabbits are six feet tall
ride municipal buses

so cats with no teeth
may be angry for a while

and the want for yesterday
is tomorrow's opposite

and were she attractive
my dreams

a presence is no balance
to time

and the courage to become
and what of destiny
when they arrive

and a spirits
I watched

a museum of process
does not exist

predawn patio espresso
predawn sounds

fire is not a myth

ice is not a myth

and the clouds

but she wore a frog on her head
and a bouquet of
snakes

'twere a ritual of favor inwhich
circles are formed

and a causal spheres
are colored from the outside

may 7, 2022

how to write a free syllable haiku

narration the cinnamon roll

I do not speak with

as someone else's poem

the chocolate cake

I imagine did not answer

[audibly]

and history becomes

because

a desire for a second

cinnamon roll

as powerful a desire as the first

though today

not as good

the thing about a second
cinnamon roll

is or is not the size
of the original
in regards to fulfillment

thus history
regarding fifteen minutes
between cinnamon rolls

what history can happen
in fifteen minutes

were I to say
the brick oven baker
dropped a loaf

on the ground like sacred

assuming gravity were
contest

and to say
the nearby municipal water fountain

nor turned on in may and
I am thirsty is

another philosophy and

the span of fifteen minutes

philosophy is explicit
is not philosophy explicit

- 1) gravity I had not assumed
- 2) municipal water need be
turned on after
winter when water pipes are
no longer frozen

and to say history exists is to say
history existed before and after
one fifteen minute period

the axiology of a geometric timeline

may or may not be said ontologically

and in regards to
two philosophies

within a fifteen minute
time period

to be certain [reasonably certain]
my hamilton watch said fifteen minutes

and whether time is a philosophy
I choose to leave my watch on

1) when I eat

2) when I sleep
and not when I shower
though my hamilton watch is
waterproof

is a philosophy to decide

when to wear a watch

whether one's watch tells proper time
in regards to greenwich mean time
whether one's watch tells improper time
with or without improper time telling intentions

and in regards to aesthetics
[a leather watch band]

and in regards to metaphysics

were mentioned in nineteen ninety five
by professor doctor a keith carreiro
time is the fire we all burn in

is a mention of aging

and to mention the life span

the political science department is near the philosophy department

a narration of one's life span
departmentally speaking is
void of interest to others'

philosophy is not history

philosophy is not an ashtray

never used

and were narration a thought

I am not convinced

we share a same language

nor ask if you are an alien

[out of general courtesy]

would you like an additive free
cigarette [question]

narration is a list
narration is observation
narration is for the narrator

[and when time was done]

a sequence of philosophy
is or is not history

and to say one philosophy is
cause for another philosophy

may be cause for history

that

—

no reason to invent a word peace

and what is interesting

[miles two through nineteen of
a twenty mile rollerblade]

and what is interesting

to ask a question of misery

[do they know they are contained]

and who could argue with history

[I]

-

my own notes
the yellow pad
stacked

so long in the wire archive basket
the paper became brittle

and were there still history

were there no recorded history

the pool cue
the nudge doctor
the pope

and the next
were the pen
of the nudge doctor

because I imagine
eventually
one successor from
the last

the smoke
the closed window

carbon
diamond
carbon
charcoal

the diamond
the aesthete
to give or to hold

and the collector
all of the pawned jewelry
melted

five pounds of gold
point nine nine nine nine

five pounds of gold
were divided

the same night
were my wine brought
because
the restaurant did not serve wine

entropy
I only thought

she wore a dress
she pedaled a bicycle wearing a dress

and it is cloudy
and it is ninety five degrees

and walnut wood I am told
is soft
is the softest
of the hardwoods

xylophones are made of wood

xeno

paradox
it saves itself

and the cunning of the deer
and the cunning of the want

may 10, two thousand and twenty two
the grocery store
the boxed water

there are no poetry readings
presently though
sit around
a living room with
local art on the walls

and the mail in creative writing were
vanity

I do not own a podium
for a dictionary

and the pictorial dictionary with
each
the pronouns
on my shelf

and the unabridged dictionary
to the left
each the pronouns too

the aesthetic watch and
the time of day

under the sleeve
the aesthetic watch
[knowing]

and the food that tastes the same
the can
the glass container

were corporated regard
to grow

to grow is seasonal
relies on rain
sun

and the harvesting tractor
and the eighteen wheel semi tractor

to the produce section
marked u s currency

there were a seed
from last year's plant
produced two seeds
one tasted good

and a sunflower
dicotyledon monocotyledon

and the mushroom
grown in darkness
never to know life

on grassed path a shadow and dew
sunrise
when the birds

until
it is dry
and no longer memory
before winter

and the birds are done

lake wingra
boathouse staff
track uniform cool day start

opens nine am
old city canoes

and the boat launch
canoe electric motor

on quoting others

lake glass
sunrise

blue gill fishing
line
bobber
hook
worm shovel city park four am

the line into the water
a bluegill
another about a hook
another

pier
no wind
fish eat bait

how to cook bluegill
scales
head guts
heat
tail
how to cook a blue gill

the bony fish
nor cartilaginous
and salmon nor bony

the fork and the trout
foil oil

box of free books is
cs lewis
sixth grade vocabulary

and the radio near
the concession stand

and were ambiance
to unplug
as the nature
were city park nature

the pink bench and I
at the blue picnic table

there is an other side
to the park
a small hill where
another donated bench with name
where a band once played
an afternoon

the lake
freezes in winter
when the concession stand closes
and the ice fisherman

the desert
the frozen lake
the middle
and the sky

single bird
low over the water

across the lake
the swimmer
one side to the other
return

springfed
she said dead lake
though the dam

statistics
correlative
one in ten
standard deviation one
two through nine are
seven apart
mean
though children are one second old
one second after they are born
~ is a symbolic form
five
a linear exemplification of ten
inwhich
three are on three
the remaining seven are
two on six
two on seven
one on nine
two on ten
six point five is the mode or
median
[question]
by the way
six point four is mean

statistics

representation

1 nominal

2 ordinal

3 bar graph

4 line graph

5 scatterplot

quantitative

measure

associated with mathematics

statistics is axiological

representation is not presentation

the question

longitudinally N is larger than n

as represented in rainfall

regarding a geopolitical assumption of

another

[one of which was a rainforest]

[nor the other]

summary

one

geopolitic with constant rainfall

assumed by another geopolitic

unique rainfalls now one geopolitic [N]

the [n] geopolitic was the rainfall geopolitic and

[N] increases $[n1] + [n2] \div 2$ represents a greater geopolitical rainfall area

of study increases a rainfall increases a rainfall measure for the lesser

rainfall geopolitic over time [question]

klevenville fixer upper
too close to a busy road

country bicycle ride
and a little free library
the dirt path

were it train tracks
including tunnel

ornithology is a sound
nor a visible birds
an underbrush

the redwing blackbird
the cattail

and the tavern
seven am near sunrise
a picnic table

I know the sun
seven in the morning
pedaling west

packed dirt
hard
quick

only packed cars for sound
an air conditioner
owl

old wooden telephone pole
spikes at ten feet for
ascent

old pavement
crumbled
and there were no road at all

the planned distance
[said the map]

who was on the bus
the quaker soprano
the discus thrower
some raucous loudists at the rear
the sleeping child
the double clutch driver
[was a left hand peace sign]
the chaperones
neil young
bob dylan
the latin teacher
jesse jackson
the waterstained cardboard box in my lap

the sound of bus travel
engine midnight four hours
sporadic conversation daylight forty eight hours
the sound of the door
the school bus vertical windows
shifting gears
the sound of a light flashing a stop sign opening
a newspaper shuffling

the umbrella
blew down the street
after the rain

I owned an umbrella
from a street vendor
five dollars

the fish at the bottom of the lake
and the blue gill

the deep sea fish
the twelve hundred pound marlin
the fifty five mile per hour
tuna

and whether a deep sea tortoise
breathes
air

and the jellyfish
and the glow in the dark jellyfish

the eighteen wheeler
a trailer of boxes [with]
a trailer of frozen fish
air conditioned
a flatbed a backhoe upon

sleeps at a truck stop called
mobil
formerly bp
aengine on all night
the tall height gas pumps
about cornland

were thirty miles upon dubuque
tomorrow
an hotel with
room service
where a city

[haircut on vacation]

handwriting
cursive
capitals
and what is said

handwriting the pen

the shelves of the library
ordered

the analyst
the analytic philosopher
the door around the corner
she was only
an assistant professor

the department with a classroom
the department with a seminar room

the window from which
a large lake
with sailboats

the funeral
the car to parallel park

the funeral the open casket

the funeral
the receiving line

—

the wedding
which are better lutherans or methodists

the wedding
the methodist church

the wedding
the reception
her hometown

the wedding
the attendees
she had an ankh tattoo on her left breast
low dress

faith in schools

before reading professor stambach (academic advisor nineteen ninety eight
through nineteen ninety nine) [2022]

on public schools and faith based curriculum

what is faith

on private schools and faith based curriculum

eg catholic schools

faith in schools

teleology and curriculum

were teleology nonexistent

and those exterior

an attractive building

and those exterior

a parents know

a child

s curriculum

faith in schools

classroom

how faith is taught

are there particular words

a public classroom a private classroom

the policeman shot
died
mountain biked with him
nineteen ninety one
skied with him
nineteen eighty seven
borrowed a reggae cassette
sly & robbie
listened while creative writing
missus barron
nineteen eighty eight

I was bicycling
an open pocket knife on the asphalt
caught my attention
declined
for its old and unofficial character
for its midday appearance and open

fuel stations
where there are no homes
a one hundred mile radius

gnats
sundown
swarm

before the stars
after sundown
the one hundred foot tree with
the leaves
ninety feet up
white bark

the interstate highway
cut
through the hill

I expect
the mississippi river
tomorrow

the sound of a bicycle over
sidewalk cracks

vines
in need of machete

deciduous forest

I climbed a vine
as a child and
it held

another
the vine came down

—

sound
the prairied underbrush
I cannot see
a rustle

to camp on the ground
and the stars through
the tree canopy
hot coffee sunrise

muzak
hotel lobby

and lightning
through a window

and thunder
rolling
on for sixty one seconds

night
city
streets
nor vehicles
lights still change

folklore
thunder is a collision
the other side of the clouds
underlit
were there a dream

statues
the hero
the animal
the mythic invented animal
the geometric shape the symbolic form

the architecture
is an old city
with comfort

and one who grew old in
the small city
only

[a local book]
[is fifty years old]
[recommendation]

I go home tomorrow
crossing
the river from vacation
and

the isolated environments
the classrooms

the isolated environments
the classroom

and the cabin on
the pond
isolated

were the same every year
to the teacher

nature as introduced by
nature
were the seasons

and the accelerations of
knowledge
nature as accelerated
the isolated environment
teachers
youth through age eighteen

the home across the street
from the church

saint raphael
the archangel
[were there an ultimacy of good]

the bird
from the cathedral tower
sunrise

theatre
were comedy to say
one may or may not consider divinity at
having tripped and fallen

[to say tomorrow] [may or may not improve]

theatre
were comedy to say
one may or may not consider divinity at
reflecting from one's deathbed
with a smile

sunrise
old neighborhood
shadows

rusted fences
occasional car like mornings where
I live

to say of oneself
I am

tall
[enough to reach the cereal box]
[the top shelf]

poet
having self published

aesthete
appreciatively

interested and follow my own
interest

wall of glass
and what is without

the city library
the city having defined
parameters
audience

were the public relations office
itself

the book on the shelf
nonlinear vibrations
nor nonlinear variations

next
I will walk past the museum
though
not go into

on the way to the church store

municipal philosophy represented
in physical forms

I do not wonder appropriations as
tourist
and what I return with
[idea]

there once was an unnamed river

and a trees were there trees
had not been pulled

philosophy is not history

and baseball had not been invented

and baseball is not invented

and the municipal parking garage with
the gold eagle statue
atop a spire

a tall building near nature and
the view from the sixth floor

and the airplane
night
approach
city squares of light

were only a single variety of
poor
brutish
short

who could say
were there ashes scattered here

ice cream cone
sugar cone
choice ten circular cardboard boxes
bubble gum
chocolate chip mint
daicquiri ice
thirty five cents
Rx rexall drug
nineteen eighty one

it is getting late and
the cars are nearly quiet

tomorrow is sunrise
across the mississippi (6/2022)

dam number eleven
army corps of engineers
were eleven from bemidji
were eleven to new orleans

were barges I see and
locks

were a samuel clemens float
a canoe a rowboat
locks [question]

the candle made a sound
for extinguishing and
smoke
still a remaindered wax

the city cut grass near
the forest border

the medians

let to grow one summer

knee high
tassled on top

bends with the wind

streetlamps

say nature's allowance is
budgetary

I appreciate

kentucky blue grass

barefoot

representative government and a place
john mccain
strom thurmond
bob dole
john glenn
as long as you like
senators
elected
for having accomplished

representative government
I have a question

representative government
as introducer of thought
as moral existence
as advocate
as vote

representative government
need I foundations of
representative government
to vote

the veteran
lived in the trailer
she said

social service is not military service
the kindergarten through twelfth grade teacher
only

the volunteer
volunteered

and the social institutions
nationally affiliated
sold christmas trees

the virtuous life and
travel

and the ski bum
and the surf bum

and the found cane for age seventy
and unnecessary when

I read of a seed vault
northern norway
arctic circle
every seed on earth
stored
were there catastrophe

to imagine catastrophe
eg flood
were norwegians among the catastrophed

and a flood recedes
and all the lightning

to wonder at what once is
to expect the same

what green
what animalia
and undersea

and nothing is recorded

man made signs in nature
stacked rocks
initials carved in trees
marble bench for a deceased
mountaintop rock igloo
lake buoy

hovering entomologics

dusk songbird
one songbird

I describe

yet a cloud moves
nor wind

a vine
a single vine
nor from the canopy
hanging

the junkyard
rusted semis
no fence
and the sound of nature

on an interest of nature
within a city

on the reluctance of interest
were a standard established

upon interest
were a standard established

[standard]

the concept of [standard]

to say [I]
coffee in the morning

-

the campwater in the five gallon
jug

the campwater in the five gallon
jug

morning oatmeal
coffee
putting a smouldered fire away

-

hazed sun west
seven fifty four pm central standard time
boulder colorado atomic clock reference

the longest day of the year
and the next day toward
winter
already
a shortening of days

the fourth of july is
a calendar day
and the prairie across the street
wildflowers and grass

and turn brown

when the leaves

and the grass again in spring

does stand

the used store
the silverscreen
photo projector

art history class
dimmed lights
the faculty with the slide advance

speaking

[slide advance]

context

[slide advance]

history

[slide advance]

associated movements

the archive with the seal
the one with the bones

the time capsule
cemented into the elementary school

were the archaeologist
the interpreter
the archaeologist the interpreter

for having found

and the bones of
the physical anthropologist

and the bones of
the paleontologist

and the bones of
the mathematician
and the statistician

the old mural
outside the window
mother fools coffeehouse
a falling paint
a bricks exposed

the flat roof
collapse
for snow

is a hard winter
to come
and last night's sundown after rain lighted july smell

is a hard winter
to come
the fireflies
about

is a hard winter
the spiders

one white butterfly
fifteen white butterflies
the single wildflower

empty bicycle rack

the organic grocer
with lasagna
the potted parsley upon my patio

and the basil require

watering

—

the accordion
I have been to greece
were the accordion grecian

the mediterranean comes to mind

and salad
and were it dusk ouzo

a picket fence
kept in the yard

and the mailbox at
the city sidewalk

and the paneled panes
glass

and the chimney

on the corner

downtown

across from the hardware store
across from ice cream
across from mickey's tavern
across from the neighborhood

and the radio at
the stoop
has always been on low volume
twenty four hours per day

the silent car
electric

the electric train
overhead cables
the electric bus

the electric bicycle with
disk brakes
is no bicycle

black tea on ice
black coffee on ice

to parallel park
ahead of the space
turn the wheel
reverse the proper distance
turn the wheel oppositely
unto one foot from the vehicle behind
turn the wheel straighteningly [sic]
unto the middle of the parallel space

before the aluminum siding were
wood plank siding

and an utilities as pipes
on the exterior

and there were an icebox
I have heard for
ice

and the ice
cut
from the winter lake
kept on straw until
may
when
people get warm and
milk spoils

a local harvest of straw
a local harvest of meat and
a garden sunflower

the leaves grew in from january
the groundshrubs
the lower trees
the mature black walnuts

and may
when the lawn is cut
in lines

and the flowers from seed
sprouted
the sunflower

were the hummingbird pause to look at
me
looking upon
still and blurred wings
mid air

[the sugar water]
[is for my own spectation]
[is for your attraction]

and in the morning's moment
afore sunrise
the white mushrooms
will melt by midmorning for
tomorrow

there is no traffic at the nearby road and
there is no sound of traffic

I once rode my bicycle to
an archaeological site
with teepee
with long grass and blanket inside and
spider

next door the tavern with
friday evening bands
now ten am though
the front door open

near the natural prairie
and wildflowers
and trail once train tracks

rainwater
from the eaves
collected

and tea from dandelions
I once rubbed on my chin and
a bouquet for someone

old fence
with no purpose

and a fence about a library

and turnstiles eight feet tall
rungs every four inches is
international

the woman
talking to her silent dog

the watching cat
as silent

the house is never painted
for one hundred years
farm
and vacant for the weather

the degradation of civilization
the assumption of nature

and the loud motor
and the airplane

and the local bicycle store
the sparkly blue twenty inch banana seat first bicycle

I could skid
I could pop a wheelie
I could go over a jump

I repaired a flat tire at age eight
I adjusted the seat with a wrench
as I grew
and the handlebars

and the boat ramp
the bicycle and I into
the water with
seaweed

and too long to pull the bicycle from
the water
and with seaweed
water draining from the handlebars

a mile after the boat ramp
the floating dock at which
the tavern owner sold twenty cents
charleston chews

in winter
charleston chews freeze and are no longer chewy and
the snow once drifted twelve feet tall
on the other side of the road

and cross country skis
do not work on bare ice

and to have gone away
returned

and to have gone away
returned
and everything is the same

acknowledging change in oneself
and everything is the same

and the agency of change
what is cause
another change agent

the reactionary

the proactionary

the picket fence
and the sidewalk
and the neighbor watering her purple speckled window flowers
the steel watering can

hello

