	SHARDS
GREGORY MARKEE	

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Prity Lights

MADISON

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1
broke the glass with a quartz stone
the stone in his hand
now again
was a three inch sphere shined the sun against the wall
[the tree a shadow] [lightning]
2
once and again there is no logic to explanation
[nature has a hold of me]
nature follows different rules nature has no language
listen
but the wind
declares a song of my own interpretation and
I am
partly alone
3
the forest is a bookshelf the green clouds
is a path off the path
answers the raven
the crystal for luck there is nothing to break
here
[the noon tree]
4
they
let the animals go [prey]
shuffled them away from fences into fences [I]
would be vegetarian [if]
the animals about the perimeter maybe know
one day they will be eaten with bernaise sauce
5
to be alone
on purpose in a little cabin at the pond with the proper tools
wrote a book of things [he sold things]
so he could afford nails and coffee
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though
the ecology of being alone insists one not deforest all of the trees nearby
[trees take years to grow]
6
the cold winter ended with a friend
be still
people
get used to being alone there is a period of adjustment in which
the accounting for supplies requires one re-divide
upon the addition
of company
[1]
7
he had a book
beneath his candle was social enough for time was
a minister in the room a priest in the room
but isolation is its own friend I know
when the sky is too dark to see
electricity
[they go back and forth] [they go back and forth]
[the demons go back and forth]
8
broken glass is a shard against the foot and
the intentions of breaking glass are an art project
the creation of hazardous bounds
[danger]
but it is the littlest pieces to be weary of
[never go in that room again] [the room requires shoes] [it is a shed] [the room is a studio with a dirt floor]
[ah]
[to make sense of wonder]
the crystal is on the shelf next to the potatoes
10
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no
it was not anger
there were three large pieces left and many splinters
I do not know the rules excepting
what is once broken may or may not be put back together again
[but]
[it was nothing of value] it was nothing of value
except where it came from
[but]
I am not a tinkerer nor a reparator
11
sea glass
the beach when crystal becomes of glass
put it in a bottle and wish upon it [anything can be wished upon]
[really]
the glass jar held the beach glass
the glass whittled down and down all the sharp edges gone
held to the light blue and red and yellow and clear
and a starfish
nearby
12
a story
was the wind carved the granite was the wind
every day made the walls
and the water
[they] said it was time perhaps it was
the vertical wall crashes down every now and again
a new
that is all
13
the crystal pushed into itself the quartz crystal pushed and pushed
into itself
becomes clear
the weight of the world pushed and pushed just like
what it does to make a diamond
```

he held it up saw the past ordained the future figured the future like a kaleidoscope almost but better and his was polished for clarity 14 said beauty is the sky is light is what is revealed now it is summer [it rained yesterday] [for growth it rained yesterday] everything is revealed [character is revealed] one neighbor went to the next [what neighbors say] this and that valuable things 15 the sky ate the clouds and it was blue them gone I lay upon my back on the grass waiting waiting for the day to finish I am in no hurry but realize the day will indeed end slowly and with a moon and if I never want to move then 16 was broken glass in the kitchen the cat must have bumped the glass bowl to the ground [cats are not perfect] the middle of the night I stepped on a piece of glass on the floor [no harm] wondering sweeping the kitchen floor in sandals and skivvies 17 the vandal the vehicle window broken them fighting now proving I do not stop but my destination later my car is damaged

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[one thing damages another] [one hardness is harder than another hardness]
animosity
18
wrote a letter about valuable [things]
[with meaning attached]
[security]
stamped the envelope and the envelope in a drawer with no address
[in time]
19
revelations Sunday June upon my back
staring
at the sky
[it is Tuesday]
the air smells like fish
the cloud is a fish
20
rain tornado the weight of weather storm
the formation of the sky
to smell the cool fresh air pull into the humid
I fear tornados
21
and the camera which captures weather how brave the camera
I see without being seen
the viewer the media
captures the vandal the strike of God upon a city upon a home upon
property
was a broken window
was a thrown rock
was a bolt of lightning lit the sky lit into the weather vane on
the barn
22
I count away the days for one hundred years
ask which day is better than the last and
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how
say it is health the prevailing condition
opens my eyes
[theirs is reckless] [no]
23
overgrowth
this is not a garden
these trees were not planted
one day
they were all pulled from the ground
[for a shopping center] the gone forest is
what is
memory what is imagination what was
24
now a hospital the invalid
[moved in]
was brought by ambulance for
some respiratory ailment lost consciousness now
stares at the window
maybe
recognizes someone he knew [it is hard to tell]
25
but the cat
could not say what she saw
cats are not perfect anyway she
once fell down a flight of stairs she
was not hurt
just demonstrated her mortality
her sense of humor
26
the end of the day and slowly the birds
the shards put together are the universe
and different every time I wake
```

I have language I have nouns for memory I have nouns I remember how it was before the glass 27 of a library I hear the ventilation on off the occasional words like truth [the sound of truth] [sound proves a truth does it not] [but it was the bell] dong [it was the bell for clarity] 28 the marbles the winter marbles melted the spring marbles too gone [they were blown] [blown] the summer marbles like balloons floated drifted down and about [gathered about the dry grass] the autumn marbles were broken dry and broken dry and broken [the color gone] [dead] 29 the marble the cateye marble [change my world] I am cut for seeing the day a cateye shine and the night [the moon] a glance through o and the dream [the moon] a glance through sleep the open window 30 the open window I have nothing to say but [appreciation] it is June cool June the rising sun [don't get lost]

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[I say don't get lost] to myself
but nowhere to be until about tomorrow shining
the same
31
[I love you]
said the book to the book
I know you
and the shelves [we are the same]
          there once began a story with a hungry lot of dolphins
          o herring o cod
          fishblood in the water
          surfing
          the surf was a stony shoreline
          [the captain]
32
hardship is isolation
isolation is freedom [independence is freedom]
hardship is failing health
[it was a chair] about the declining health it was
a chair
[with wheels] [and an engine]
[it floated]
33
the coin
mistook the coin for a marble
a president's head and an eagle now an eagle
a jar of presidents to the bank
one hundred and twenty two dollars and eleven
cents
to the store for shoes
and ice cream
34
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again the copycat
spoke someone else's poem and another another
[that book was written] [hush]
what I would like to hear is reason
reason for the poem [is not every poem the same]
the blue
the sharp
the loud
the bosom
35
contracted a disease
salesmanship sold things [things] which were not his own
conscience [conscience]
yes sold a conscience which was not his own
rolled into a steel ball he could not penetrate
[sold it cheaply to anyone who knew what to do with a conscience]
36
taken on faith
that thievery for the needy is
justifiable
[bread and blankets] but the crook had a house and a horse
the crook had a gun and bullets
it was taken on faith
but he took whatever he cared to take
the crook hunted the crook took [things]
[it] was taken on faith
37
the sky bent as if it was closing
but for a storm
technology says take cover the radio
and from zero thus the wind wind and rain advance
pound
one hour [done] as fast as it came it is done
the rivers on the road the rivers full rush
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[it came too fast] 38 curious to find two spiders this morning in the bathtub one I crushed the other I left to its own wit 39 I do not believe we have met do you say what is that color of your skin alien green do you say that is curious you must be eight feet tall do you say and with seven fingers on each hand that is curious you must be a reptile I am a mammal thank you very much nice to meet you 40 I talked in circles with the people I did not know [I think they were people] it is about time to retake the mantel of authority in this great nation [giddyup] really we are quite nervous about conflict [I vote] [I listen to promises but I have never made a political promise] [I have never heard a political promise kept] how are you different [I am hungry] 41 the poet stretched out his arms gathered all the sunlight he could put it in a grocery bag made a promise like a prayer

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reached into the grocery bag and pulled out an apple
and peanut butter
and a knife
42
held the hammer high
and upon the table [crash]
splinters and ideas combustible ideas
control is warrant
makes things [things] happen
43
the sun went down and
before the yard cooled the mosquitoes
come sharply
[the aggressive small mosquitoes]
the idea of summer is changed when the screen patio
swarm
swarm
44
and from now and later in the season
the fireflies
gently their light about the trees the grass the sun recently down
[I care enough to want to make beauty of this]
this
45
the hammer rested on the kitchen table
sometimes on the frigerator
burnt his and her name into the handle
is a symbol
[call it love]
the potency of destructible force [call it love]
46
the idea [that
all people carry a hammer in a holster]
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[wooden handle tool steel]
the idea of one idea [that
ultimacy requires defense on all fronts]
everyone requires ultimacy
47
the second greatest animal in the kingdom
three way tie between chimpanzees dolphins elephants
but the chimpanzees hold
[ideas]
but the elephants have graveyards
but the dolphins speak speak
[ideas]
48
made a movie a moving film
the animals conjoin say
there is no more detention
there are no limits to the trees and
lions can eat mushrooms [now]
49
independence day is about
the sun is high
the people waiting for fireworks and him on the train
traveling
America northbound up the Mississippi
will stay in Trempeleau listening to the river
[when the music stops]
50
[I love you] he said to himself in the silence
of his head
[there are places dark places which are canceled by]
[love]
but he was alone really and wondering if
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[ever]
51
the cloud is a dog
a big white dog
now it is a dragon now it is a saint now it is
a factory with smokestacks
the cloud is a dog
and will always be a dog
52
nature is abrupt
when it decides
the tumbling mud the snow slide the tsunami
earthquake
[step aside man] [change is gonna be]
[be]
          the thunderstorm ripped through the country side
          lit a tornado
          [there was hail]
          [hail the size of baseballs]
53
hell the size of baseballs
the sky is dark but it is not the sky I see
the rain rain
hell the size of baseballs
and havoc
crash splash
54
the next day the rain was gone the green grass
and again
the cars advance one and again another
[the go to work] [they go to labor]
[they go to the store]
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55 the surface of being is public interface [they spoke the popular language] this is this and that is that and money really they did not require language it is just that they were lonely [they had all they required] 56 built a church of stone and promised 57 and he sat across from the pretty lady with the cat kept promising they would be home soon [from the train station] surely they did not live here but a time away she was dressed quite nicely and with a bonnet 58 clack clack that was not his train [he knew his train] soon he is wobbling away with his possessions directly on time [they won't let him smoke cigarettes any longer] [nor will the doctor] he eats granola and drinks whiskey 59 one hundred cars one hundred shards of coal [the next will be people in silver cars with windows] an engine an aengine power [diesel] rocking back and forth and back to

sleep the horizon all the farms all the farms 60 waiting hallooo and the mosquitoes nor wind the sun goes down travels to the horizon in a purple silence waiting 61 genius arrives with courage [he has a menu rested in his breast pocket] [it is a book of recipes] genius is taste and it was a painted woman which captured his soul [put it on the mantel] [I smell it to he imagined her words] duck roasted duck and a cake with strawberries 62 the market is close to the farm she says he is alone but the dog who favors the cat fresh berries and bread and beans [and the one who brings melons] [with the attitude] a single cloud in the sky just one and not too hot butter 63 change is good change is magical change is a rhythm and what change I make opposing what change I watch I once was young and knew things from a perspective [but it is I who change] [but it is I who am dynamic] [no] [the world changes does it not] it is the city that changes the house the paint does peel and language I say language does change [it changes me and I] [and I change language] change ages it does change I watch change I know I have memory

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64
and the teacher the institution of change
what is the constitution of change what is the idea
the one
the one which stood the tallest when the wind was strongest
is a memory
they follow they make rhythm of following such a manner
65
the sky grew dark and the cat does watch
the rain about
to happen
and the wind starts the birds still about they are not convinced
patter
patter patter
now
66
is a dark sky is a weakness to summer when
all else is covered in blue and sky
[this is not sky] [but for spring] [this is not sky] [quickening]
nor lights but to watch
travel
to the mail box to check
67
weather is not change weather happens when it is supposed to happen
the water to the earth beneath the earth to
the underground river the underground sea where
the blind men sail
allow
pipes to the surface the sucking pipes and pumps where the aquatically needy are
requiring
68
one drop onna leaf another
rumble rumble
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the sun recedes I can tell I love the rain really I do I listen the open back door I fall asleep listening I do [this is change] 69 the train brings change the train brings the weather and silence then patience waiting for futures [they built a bridge] [and stayed] once the silence when the construction is done [they settle] [it is no longer mine] I have never minded being alone in this place [thinking of her] 70 beauty is not a question nor sundown nor sunrise you are what I call you or I say silence in a firm [voice] beauty is a color a distinct color it is I have never seen beauty and that is why that is how I recognize beauty [when] 71 the ceremony went as planned thirty minutes [they shaved her head and his head] said [beauty] a prayer and now the fire is lit to the burning out sky [it is night] [and the chill the summer chill comes] 72 Today is yesterday the cycles are recognizable with age but the summer [a thought] already the days are becoming smaller

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[it was a half moon last night]
[waning] [yes waning]
73
what is it I love [if it is all the same]
and
what is it I love were it all so common what is it
I could stare at
[my vision] I could stare at
the sky the night the daymoon the clouds the way
the rain I could listen
[o to hear] the rain
the rain the water
[the wind]
74
city is a fraud
trickery
one human to another is a contest but
they answer to each
they each have police
people
money is a fraud car is a fraud house is a fraud but I bring wine
[forget]
75
the fish
with a net
the apple with a net
a hand full of honey
[health food]
and were it gluttony to say more I can fit more within my body
say a farm a storage of the animals a storage of food
76
seeds them blown
and the sticky ones let down
put into the soil for roots
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the burr put down and begins
a new generation
and cotton starts again
77
the day is put from yesterday's seed
I believe then
and from
but the weather is colder and there are more airplanes
people are out and learning things again
people are always learning things learning things
and making connections [conditions]
78
today I believe differently
[it was her] the economics of friendship is
one idea held aloft
[the marketeer] [knows it best]
prosperity is a hammer when a hammer is required
prosperity is a calculator
prosperity is a newspaper when fire is required
79
but it was
not
until
[when]
80
I write a letter to my elder self in regards to your question
[yes I am content sometimes a little insecure but content and still asking] [I say do you still ask]
I write a letter to my younger self in regards to your question
[yes I am confident] [I know] [things] [I still ask]
81
I am not bothered by the
I trust the
I still desire the
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my weakness
I still carry the
nor do I carry the [like a malcontent]
82
the butterfly flitted past the screen window to
the potted flower the red flower
[the day smells as good as the idea of summer]
I do not know if the grass will dry this year
it is too early for the local corn but I will wait
83
the divinity of
being
say appreciation is standard and with no cause for
were control a matter of force [it is not]
84
and were there no people ask
would there still be divinity in this world
is the institution of divinity socially constituted
[no]
[yes]
God is not a person and has never been a person
85
were there no divinity would there still be beauty
but it is the flavor of chocolate
but it is the smell the crackling fire
but it is the moon as time
but it is the ocean as time and
how a tree is seen from fifty years apart from a thousand years apart
86
o I love I live do I not
aware the burden of being in which
loss and learning in which pain and suffering
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proves
something does it not
87
and if it were time as constitution I say
it is too easy to know time as the theory
because
I am present now and realize no difference but
when I wake from sleep
I am change
88
I am nature and soon
the weather will mark me again will make me stay
to finish
to know before I can say
I belong
I am not separate
89
to catch a butterfly
in a net
but they move so quietly and when there is no wind but heat
summer is a thistle is a bumble bee nor threatening
release everything
I only wanted to see to see what you would do
with captivity
90
the sound and nighttime then when the stars
cry out
to be light to be the agency of light is a burden a billion years
but hope
and for the first time I have memory
91
the tool box the rusted tools
everything was already fixed he rested
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the walls were painted and the doors fixed the frigerator was done nothing leaked he rested 92 there is no harm about trimming the shrubs there is no violence to cutting the grass nor discomfort to the tree with the swing nor the corn come down for harvest nor violence to the tobacco sacrificed in a pipe 93 the animals did not agree the ones with teeth chased the ones that were fast it is an age old argument about vegetarianism they said why can we not all get along the lion knows no logic but logic 94 theft the diamond it is value because it is damn hard harder than stone mind you and you can see right through it to be cut to be civilized to be changed and remain hard for your beauty 95 I rode a train across the country met a lady sixty years my senior clack clack I rode a train across the country and stared at the forces which govern me [there are large things] [things] 96 the country is a day old better than a day before

memory the sun closes earlier than last week the trees are the same the journal it has rained the last three nights the radio said there was flooding 97 had his carriage flooded it is rotten lucky to say no basement like the neighbors who came from afar away bought a home with a basement thought they'd store things I suppose 98 that is why fate is a dismembered direction because to prepare for one thing make the other happen and oppositely 99 cat just watched did not get up for food or affection opened the door so it would attend to elsewhere like the birds but she stayed like I am more interesting 100 was the tallest building in the city [six stories] with a big neon sign on top what a view but the surrounding hills were taller there is a difference between natural character and anthropological character

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ask
who put the cinders in that pile
101
once was a volcano
evidence
and another volcano left bubbled stone about for now
the ponderosas push through
one by one
the lava field is eroded but not in my lifetime
[it has only been seven hundred years]
102
formation is a mother met a father
built a house called it home
put up wallpaper and hunted ducks
got the car stuck in the winter time
we were all good cooks back then
103
the glass pane had rested so long in one position
the top end of the pane drew down into the bottom end of the pane
formed a blob
no really
but don't wait it takes
thousands of years
104
the Martin Luther King Jr. glass stained glass
from Memphis
got it outside the Lorraine hotel
at the restoration glass artists them
put it in my window green and yellow and wavy clear
no
I do not have a story
really
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105 the gloat the braggart and to the homebody [sat upon the shelf watching like patience watches] says possession ownership I have been places I have owned places [no response] 106 but the bird and the straw the wand the nest in the human's fort tweeted unto the moon tweeted when there was no moon tweeted 107 dazzling the summer sun but it is not too hot for baseball [a film of clouds] [they come they] [go] 108 winter's opposite to be stationed and with no quarantine nor ask again peace for what is already near brings about the word love if not love itself 109 politics declare say there is a position [but first a subject] and were nature ever to be brought among the human controls [not with permission]

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politics declare say democracy say majority rule
such was the idea
110
the discouraged courage of want
[it takes from that which is not mine]
the peaceable entertainment of being [when]
there is no thought to consumption
111
ice tea was all
that is all
and now thus
completed I
[travel] find my way to sleep
112
the underwater dream
walking underwater upside down on the surface of the air
the jellyfish
[I see the stars for night]
[I know it is night I see the stars]
I hear the colorful fish kissing the coral I hear
the wave crashing the shore another another like time
113
just about noon
rise
it was his second coming [for breakfast] [really lunch]
but he died last night
[it was the blueberries he is still eating]
114
the circular face blue and carved like an Aztec calendar
[it is Summer that is all I know]
red lips and black eyes
the ocean about the sky about
art
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paper
onna wall framed [ekphrasia]
115
high noon
gun fire
the downed shadow straight down
hell
is a question
116
the midterm
genius for being
identity is conscience
[Sir George she was elected]
[I do not know how to appreciate you but]
117
the summer of love
[knowledge is different than love]
[maybe]
and the sun still shows itself and the rain
[it rained so hard the ground could not absorb it]
[water is love]
[and heat is love] [summer heat is love]
and the stars
[full]
118
the senior citizen broke no rules
there are no rules for senior citizens
except the mantra 'one at a time' 'one atta time'
once citizenship had no reference
to age
119
the journal of laws
[eleven]
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[the eleven commandments] science is framed by conscience [idea] written on eighty pound paper 120 the accreditation of genius the qualifications of genius he ate fruit with yogurt every day for ideas his driver did not talk because he knew his ideas would be [stolen] [used] 121 the firecracker is a book the reason for two hundred pages bangboompop the dog under the bed 122 the skinny squirrel about the yard the prowling squirrel the lion is a meateater a suburban meateater a prowling cat the squirrel never did see 123 once the clouds begone I say clear the sky clear the palate this is my day and I will make nothing of you but blue 124 enter the clowns the madmen I am in a theatre

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[I cannot be touched]
[and were it to rain I cannot be touched]
I am in an amphitheater a colosseum observing
opposites
125
like your smile
[your smell]
like a morning to memory the sun
all the day
like production and reproduction like making
want for want
126
the saturated grass
the mosquitoes now for blood
an isolated bird chirp and
the canopy of clouds echo
nor wind
127
beware
the parted thoughts
bent from self ambition to pride in one thing [what fits in a pocket]
and it was their partnership says
this is why we speak [yes] this is why we speak
128
the coupled
the man and the woman made no declarations [no public declarations]
the man and woman knew the difference atween
the coupled
rhymed through the night
[they had heavy curtains]
129
counting is easy to say
a bushel of hands makes a peck of ambition
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the quart of potential is agreeable to
the gross of want [it just takes a while] [like a mite of patience] [it just takes a while]
counting is easy to say begin
at one and continue at fives at fives
130
the competitive man kept defeating
the one he
loved
but she did not love
[him]
131
and sadness about the forest
[everyone wanted a house]
the forest recycles itself you do know
every one hundred years again and again
the animals return
[the animals return from underground]
excepting where there are neighborhoods
132
and when they went to the moon they took the moon
back
it had previously been taken
and they retook it again I do not know how many
times
the moon has been retaken I do not know
how many craters there are on the moon
133
made a tea of dandelions
let it steep
for eternity [turn my body yellow]
[with thought]
[turn the inside of my body yellow]
[then fluff] [I go]
[away]
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134 the intolerable cruelty of ignorance [it is not their fault] [there is something wrong with their brain] [there is smoke] [where there should be thought there is smoke] [or a cloud it is] [and waiting for clearance] 135 twere her handsome features her hairy chin let him ask for some physical assistance [it was a heavy box] [too heavy] it was just he forgot to pay her with a glass of wine [offered her a whiskey] [she liked it all the same] my what strong jowls you have [chum] 136 I make the weather I cause the weather I am distance count me thirty thousand measures through a cloud [a lake one hundred feet deep] the rain caused the cañon the air caused the cañon but the sky at night there is nothing nothing the sun is blocked and there is no air [on the moon] 137 the helpless the others brought food and water but [them] them kept putting bombs into the air into safe places [never harmed a one] 138 the sky bent over turned to darkness and becoming darkness

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the constructors had to hurry must hurry
[it won't be long now] [said the foreman]
and the rain [there are some things greater]
tomorrow
139
and when the sky bent over the green
the green is evidence that you are here are important
[we all are important]
[twas never said one is more important than another]
is a cause for democracy is a cause
for equal access
140
the politics of a madman [but he did not vote]
[and that is why]
he believed and they believed but they did not believe as he believe
not everyone is a president a senator
but that does not make him mad
[and that is why]
141
the ball of thought was tossed about the room
it was inflated with
the breath of the teacher [the teacher]
why does she get to be teacher why does she get to
inflate balls
142
the democratic way
and a calendar an electoral calendar they took Tuesdays off
and why they stopped voting because
[them] them stopped voting about such things as
representative democracy [stopped representing]
143
but
they wanted health care I did
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[and other spendy things like roads and public satisfaction]	
[and a strong military]	
might	
might	
144	
to see the stars when I retire I am not blind	
to make things of clay [I do not have arthritis]	
I see the moon through a microscope	
[the moon bacteria is red and green like Christmas]	
I operate	
a cash register like a surgeon	
145	
the swagger of the dog the cat did follow	
they were supposed to be friendly	
all things together	
they bragged of interspecies marriage	
they were spayed and neutered anyhow	
146	
the troubling sky the clouds	
the troubling sky the clouds roll in southwest to northeast the upper corner of Iowa the Mississippi flood and tornado havoc	
the troubling sky the clouds roll in southwest to northeast the upper corner of Iowa the Mississippi	
the troubling sky the clouds roll in southwest to northeast the upper corner of Iowa the Mississippi flood and tornado havoc	
the troubling sky the clouds roll in southwest to northeast the upper corner of Iowa the Mississippi flood and tornado havoc dark like dusk and silent	
the troubling sky the clouds roll in southwest to northeast the upper corner of Iowa the Mississippi flood and tornado havoc dark like dusk and silent humid it comes	
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the soil opens the fallen trees [but] they built a parking lot where the water used to go [a pond] 149 it was my tribe paid for freedom but I was long dead making words of wisdom imaginary 150 the courage to eat directly from wilderness to make a go of true independence [that is not your weapon that is not your knife] how do you design your house do you live in the snow I do I trade berries for beads and steel 151 the green comes shortly stays the meadow with the trail the clearing she took off her shoes and I the lake is a metaphor [the lake is a metaphor] [sex] 152 the germ the germ of love the germ of being carried away the clouds swiftly beyond the moon exposure the stars are now having always been I am confident [I am confident] 153 the germ of satisfaction was actually its absence

the absence of consent the absence of desire [never considered] the germ the healing germ the germ of being 154 spread about the room all of the clothes put down like carpet to be plucked the wardrobe to be plucked was a system he walked upon the clothes and still said they were clean 155 I know the dust the leaves settle on the forest floor the fallen branches and the water comes down cleanses brings about life in turn with [the sun] 156 the glory of the sun [now] pulls the water from the soil through the leaves and into thought [wrote a poem about life the fallen tree] [wrote a poem about death] 157 death is an opinion [no one really dies] [nothing really dies] but the voice died when there was no answer silence is an opinion [never made a sound again] 158 the traveling clouds and I

```
watching from a boat
calling out names [old man] [dragon]
I see dragons every day
159
the carnival the fair
is the sky with rides and games and photography
brought sweet food
and a metal detector
to see the livestock
160
dark sky now afternoon
quiet for the rain
in a chair waiting it comes and stops
comes again
hard
161
the violent storm
the angry storm
the gentle rain
the passing clouds
summer sky
162
and were it a prayer answered to know
to be aware of
kindness and the satisfactions of living among
nature I say
I am aware do I not watch do I not sense [yes]
163
because all is nature it is including man
and all of man's contributions
and all of woman's contributions
and the flora and the fauna and the stones and the glaciers
[and the sky] [and the starry sky]
```

[and moral character] 164 when the wind I say the wind is strong and fortunate the health of the wind is that of the clouds [the visibility of the clouds] from the horizon like steam like carrying steam 165 lay down the rain the dusty earth does swallow for the day and the ecology of the day I say these intentions are what I offer and if I can call the rain then 166 and when they built that building the nesting pairs split into two [took their earth] [I was once in love] [and whether it was my change my difference] [and whether I can only know the word love] 167 the nesting place call home nor difference were there the intentions of mortgage a promise [this will never be taken] 168 and with all the cars [gone] and the trains [gone] the airplanes [gone] the silence is deafening [but] it is not silence I answer the eagles the wolves

```
169
and a world of titles
[to the librarian]
and the origins of interest she said
[I] was born in the arctic [I] was born on an island
do I not appreciate books
170
I have nothing more to offer I see
your mind is plump is full
[release] let away your burden purge yourself
[it is a poem I started] [I haven't]
[quite finished]
[it is a poem about finishing]
172
          the finished house
          had a place to be had a place to answer the questions
          the finished clouds
          had a place to be had a finished home
          the finished day
          had a place to be
173
but written in stone
no
written on stone that
nature's intervention is a trust
is a corporation
[but that is only language]
174
I have no interest in what direction you stand
in what direction you face [the sunrise]
[in the direction of a student]
but it is a sunflower
and monogamous
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175
and if you talk at me while facing the other direction
I will say I do not hear you unless
we speak of the same ship
the same moon
I see to the west
176
old man sunrise old woman sunrise
stretch
everything is new I hold everything is new
set me gently into their earth
I am only young and figuring
177
to say I am a carnivore
[but it is grass their diet]
and fish is fish
and were the acquisition of food significant
[like a garden] [like a hunt]
178
all of them [them]
got together their interests and built buildings one against another one against another
called it city
said currency
said character
179
but that [that]
was a thousand years ago
when men carried weapons and women carried weapons
and they still had trouble finding wood and
they smelled of soot and sweat
180
but I am alone
it is I speaking to myself
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[I do not echo]
but the library the church
in a thousand years these walls will still be present
181
the permanence of myself
and if I had only copied truth onto paper
[but the alchemist]
[invents truth] [no]
[but the priest]
182
permanence is a stone but I cannot see the stone
to prove the stone
permanence is a star is a sun
permanence is gravity
the weight of the universe is one
183
once upon a time there was a dinosaur
ate another dinosaur
ate another dinosaur
had no thumbs
ate another dinosaur
184
the astronomer said calendar the days
in a row
the mayor said worship them and them said these are heroes
call these days for these people
every year from now on [ok]
185
I wonder
were flight so common to the birds
it is I who fly it is I who speak
it is I who remembers one poem
[it is I who can write a second poem] [if]
```

186 the enchantment of the red sandstone [appearance is the pattern of water] [it once was an ocean] [with animals] [it was beauty then] [also] 187 the gaze into her eyes twas twere tis like winter but it is summer it is warm and full but the clear sky is deceiving [when I wake] 188 deception is a shade of blue was the blue snow the glacial snow let into the blue water reflecting the blue sky I understand everything is blue 189 is a mystery how I see but my sight is failing I have seen enough nothing else will compare with the point a mountain touches an ocean the open plain the sky I do not wish them to be common 190 made a faith about a word made a faith about a sky made a faith about a man made a faith about economic prosperity made a building

```
191
again the constructors constructing
[this time a road] [with lines]
they finish come again tomorrow until
they are through
move on again and again
192
all of the animals convened
for a vote
said they are in danger
[there are too many of them] them
but they have weapons and thumbs and we have but
teeth and claws
193
is her voice
is angelic like the clouds I hear
digital and digital is not invented
blows
respond the leaves I respond
194
is the poet answers the guitarist
Ι
am one and the same and for the same cause
nor the poet is an entertainer I see
but a lover a thinker a giver
195
said the clock
five minutes until the convention
he spoke
reliably they assembled and made a plan for time
called each other names
[depending on their responsibility]
196
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and were it separation or love their decision to talk
[all the time]
and were it self defense to remember
what the other had said
nor one ever wished to be alone in the desert in the forest
[where simplicity lurks]
197
when the stillness
when the wind is stalled call summer and without thought
nor I can hide
indoors because of the electricity [the electricity is gone]
[because of the stillness electricity is gone]
198
but they chattered the people chattered in a row
in a line
everyone gets
in the same line
[wanting an answer]
199
the poet sweated I say smelled
in the rain the hungry poet now chilled
[delightful]
indoors the poet smelled drank milk so fast it spilled [chocolate milk]
the poet filmed his own
[self]
take me to the ballgame the baseball game
the lights we are
sworn into [the exercise of America]
o cause
freedom freedom freedom
201
it rains the sky
```

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is blue it rains the sky the clear sky o fantasy
soon the dragons and the fire [there is nothing I can do about time]
[but wait] [like the season]
[until the questions have burned away]
202
foot steps when no person is about
for fear [it is their fear] [listen]
and the game yet played in my head [in my head]
when there were no players and no coaches to tell the players what to do
[listen]
203
what is said of experimental knowledge
no
there never was a teacher there never was a professor
[a warrant]
there never was a question [just]
204
the desk at the open window the simple desk with room
for paper
the fighting birds them
it is the light distracts it is a cloud about the sun
it is the smell distracts
205
I wait like any doctor I wait for information
tomorrow is another story and that is why
I wait
I put information with other information and call it words
say I declare language is a pill is a prayer
for suffering language is a pill is a prayer
206
caught in the middle
the fracas upon both sides of the wall and intentions split
I am a fence a mediator I am a fence
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```
it was midnight when cause slipped into silence
it was a measure of distance
207
bang [humm] the engine lit
o what I see for sunrise the cañon wall the western cañon wall
nor a thing beyond
was once an ocean and now a desert collecting light and shadows
dimensions and fossils
208
for one life's work [was a heap of editing to be done]
[it all should be the same color] [when]
and all in a row in a line because
the questions the questions like what is your relationship to beauty
[everyone agrees on beauty] [no] [but I]
209
the volunteer
authority
said wood and steel and glass [and things happened]
it was the measure of interest [in which]
the clouds do measure themselves [they require no applause]
[for being]
210
sight I am captured the sight of [the going-down sun]
turns to black ness when I am held yet
against the moon
there
[turns to black ness] [to stare upon] [the sun]
211
it was winter for summer [change]
read a book of winter when the snow
[bear down] [beat down] [like an engine]
the winter thunder but I am only imagining a book
[is a spell]
```

212 kiss was the doorbell I have been waiting and were politics your motive but love I do not hear a word [because you are silent] 'can you repeat yourself' 213 kiss was beauty for language she spoke [lovely or either eloquently] I could paint your love and I have never painted exactly I know the poetics of geometry the geometry of poetics [but that is only philosophy] that is only want that is only desire 214 kiss the texture of a wall is no matter but skin is imaginary I hold is soft tender but was a love attached to being I say [my own smallness] [I] 215 kiss was a soft sound the date was a dance played o familiar songs [car ride] [but that is imaginary 216 reason is procreation says logic [was their love] put a child upon their earth without explaining why [it was time] [they decided]

217 the sadness [he collected sadness] [he put balls of collected sadness into his pocket] [put imaginary boxes of sadness into his pistols into his cannons into his canons] [kept sadness] [kept sadness alive] [spent sadness like currency] [made a value of sadness] 218 was a slow front comes from the southwest [the open door] she moved she moved nor rain attached to her figure was just the reason I step in front of you not the rain [there was no rain] [so] 219 it is easy love is easy but gave way to distraction and inattention [maybe love is not love who can say] but they kiss nevertheless they kiss on the lips and call each other pet names like fishy and kitty and birdie 220 the belles [satisfaction] the light of the moon they called at peace and justice [wearing nothing but paint] and they had no fire to dance about [tomorrow] tomorrow they would have a fire and roast a pig [this is rehearsal] 221 and would the child have language were there no social place if memory were language then I say yes because a being is matched with a designation among

222 the old village because of the view [but they had no plumbing] everything is carried like intentions are carried 223 the mask [wore it for a thousand years then passed it on] the clown wore the mask four times then was good 224 the snake sunning itself on the road startled to a rattle become [do not become everything curious] dear 225 the snake the eaten snake the eaten shark the eaten bear kept a rattle for a trophy kept a rattle 226 imagine I change like adaptation because it is the education department is still thinking putting me into straights and arrows having me eat particular things like types of magic 227 the education department [again] I saw them near the spring

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watching people
[do this and that] [make cookies and wondering why they make cookies]
trying to train them to make money [money]
[money]
228
the education department slipped on a word
[misspelled the word genii] [misplanted the idea] [genii]
supposed authority includes knowledge [it does does it not]
[it] is a categorical imperative
that an education department is a facility
a building with no curtains and with no patio
229
genii is a building is a structure without
architectural value with no doors and with no rooms
with solid features [brick solid]
and a flat room that cannot be climbed upon
[but give it a name]
230
I hold these truths
the night I am nocturnal I speak to you
lit
by the stars and all of the pleasantries of all of the stars
[and a moon] [is all I know]
231
I hold these truths
[there is a color] [and the geometries of love]
what else can there be [but time] [alas]
and so much to consider when they are aware like I am
aware
232
the attorney general said truth
the physician said truth
```

the teacher said truth the race car driver said truth the farmer said truth 233 the intoxicated cat fell off the bureau into the sleeping man and sat on his face [it was rotten applesauce] [it was a spilt bottle] he did not move 234 the toppled intellect lay on the floor drooling and purring thinking thinking [there was a time when a kingdom maintained itself] [but popular opinion insists] [change is natural] [requires a restart on occasion] requires an idea 235 I expect the autumn air to be the same as this fresh summer being unexpected I love [were it possible to love] the weather [and do I talk to you or do I talk to God] 236 stillness is an interior the weather indoors is meh I say meh just the watch of being the shelves contain my interest [was love and a picture of love] kept pushing air like the clouds [it is a book] 237 o sway the trees bend in the air with my being crossed with nature crossed with humanity I love [do I not love] for to rest among the placid things when all good things are

put 238 it is the dis ease of circumstance when the storms of interior thought wrestle with what cannot be changed [the hardness of mineral] [the hardness of material] [and how they bang amongst themselves] 239 the dragon she flew and breathing fire for want against the wind for to the north is where the gold is where determination is as the snow a half a year from this point [I follow] [watching] 240 the music of the doctors is health and closeness humanity the music of educationist is true and with sound the music of the cloud against the light is faith that I inherit 241 and a circle begins the cycles a circle o time tis birth I say when mother earth is beauty's allowance [to stand at a glacier] [I melt] 242 enters peace [all of the nations] when the hardest has been struck [by itself] truth is red and blue and yellow say the sky and the sounds of life [do I not speak] [do I not celebrate language] 243

nor mine is control for the wind the lightning nor mine is control for time [but I can wait] and from this window every [thing] is two dimensional but I am not protected from time [but I can wait] [I can hold things] [I can wait] 244 the observation of the elder at play [I could say checkers] [but he is still good at golf] [and she] twas a let to say the plans of retirement are in good sitting [who would not wish the end to be thoughtful] [and full] 245 the constructors yet constructing a road soon there will be roads all about America into every home into every production for selling and buying [things] for looking [at things] 246 the difference between him and her there is no difference between him and her [they are married] they wear the same clothes [but Sundays] they eat the same meat was a barbecue [they take turns at choice] I have said enough but love does age 247 the cat sat on the mat the dog sat on the bog the dog sat on the mat the cat sat on the dog the dog ate the cat's food 248

the simple lies of living without reference one can say liberty at liberty at anything

and the manic ways of time filled without meaning are

folly and unprepared

are no match to truth I say a language matches experience

249

twas a dream spillt into life

the eclectic love of spirit

the blue trees and the green sky the yellow earth the brown moon

are but a juxtaposition of color

[but the sky does grow] [the moon still sets]

250

the worries of what are exterior to one's control

[a thing] [is not supposed to be in such a way]

bureaucracy is a lifetime put into spheres into ways

[they have established a department of education]

[they have established a job placement service]

251

the social worker saved the world [brought clean water]

[to what she called] [the governed]

[they were living in a large shell] [in thatch homes]

she said money and showed photographs gathered statistics

she learned in an education system

252

the social worker wore a pretty dress that did not match her socks

the social worker wore corduroys like an anthropologist

the social worker wore a bike helmet inside the building he did

the social worker recommended the proper drugs for

the weary man with no associations

253

measuring faith

yes the grace of beauty is not so limited as any conception

like one color [but it changes to another] [I have seen a sundown put to rest]

nor is color the only conception of beauty [it was texture that held me close]

[and the sound of Saturday]

```
254
the shadow flew
it was the leaves crossed with the afternoon
I lie upon my back for the breeze to ease
and the shadow returns
but the bird
255
the education department taught me
[it] is not my trouble I am concerned with
[but it is all troubling] [use brackets]
put a thought into a soul call theirs like altruism
and stay
256
the philanthropist the philosopher
declares cause and remedy
theory and action everything begins with theory
the educated philanthropist begins
as philosopher
257
soul [and he said heart] but it was a weakness of soul
to arrange one's own ness neatly
without consideration of those about
[they just went to labor camps] [they just did what they were told]
[and washed their clothes on Sundays]
258
the direction of the moon left to right
there is an eclipse soon supposed to say how small humanity is
[I had not considered]
[the sound of the moon] [is a soft electronica]
[listen]
259
and what faith to say the sun is stillness
[it is I who orbit]
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like midnight is stillness [it is I who orbit]
when the sun is done for now and the moon I pass
about
260
put a number on love
called it one hundred and said
all of the other numbers mean one thing
[but the weight of the universe is one]
[and zero means nothing]
261
all of the categories in a row
spanned the continent [it was a continent of interest]
but that is nothing compared to
the bricks they made with each category and inventing when they needed
[but I am a philosopher] [it was my idea]
262
technology and the production of spirit
the author
but it was a spouse built the printing press was an opportunist built
the internet
[and whether I care for myself now that I am my own producer]
[no] no said the editor [I]
263
the rains came like a book of rain
promising good [health] promising the sound of rain
it is the language of pause [I am indoors] [now]
nor a break in the sky but fullness
[this is not my time] but pause [wait]
264
bits and barbs pieces shards and pain
the little lives of mongrel camps and scraps and [what they say is faith]
everything is in something else
[and without name] [and without confidence]
```

but violence but violence 265 there is a paper for every record said technology no more now everything is kept [everything] now everything is alphabetized and put into a place nothing is lost again everything is referenced everywhere [except the liar] 266 machine travels east picks up dirt travels west puts down dirt travels east the robot painted the car the man directed the robot the man is in the machine the soul is in the machine making something big I cannot lift myself 267 [hey kid get outta here] [don't let me see you around here again] [you'll hurt yourself] [did you climb that fence] [do your parents know you're here] 268 the cicadas rose in anthem the hot ness of the sun was an afternoon sitting by

269

the lights off somewhere in the afternoon through the window and minding the day [apparently the birdfeeder requires attention] [apparently] [the dependent birds apparently] [wait]

they answer rise and answer again

rise and answer again

270

half light cross the room nor shadows and the sky half light nor shadows the trees half light at noon was the clouds nor rain and everything is equal and without sound and everything is equal for sight

271

I live

I breathe without contemplating breath it is the sight the sound and sense I consider is whether I participate is whether I be among

272

twere the clouds in a row begin and begin each time I open my eyes and today there are none the sky is blue and now the wind when I was happening to the forest

273

tired like a mule
bent down from doing [things for others]
and to celebrate what [is a question]
was a day said my own I am no
slave

274

the slave ate the food prepared by the master [said make your own now on] was the master's garden the master's animals said I am no slave but make no money said I am no slave but make for my family

275

winter is six months off
will be here quick I was settling my mind to thought
the bag with wheels will require skis

```
said the homeless [man]
[will need a warm blanket] [a warm coat] [to sleep in]
276
the monkeys at the zoo
hung from an arm made a sound
ignored one and another waiting
waiting for bananas and people
[I do not think so]
277
its been a long time the sky
has since turned has since reared itself to darkness
history tells me
tomorrow will come again I do not know
[if I will be here]
278
dug a hole in the earth dug up bones
[fossils]
no they are not six thousand years old
they are six million years old
in some places petrified wood can be found
279
there once was a forest here
yes before the parking lot
and before that before the desert before the swamp
before time
before there were watches
280
I have lived a long time [comparatively]
I am a tall person [comparatively]
I make good music say it is the stars was
what made me
[ask] have I happened before
```

281 sonar the moon the man in the moon watches with sonar said no more destruction for me [establish] an observatory here watch outer space and earth on occasion [living forever] 282 the coin collector followed the rules the categories one for each and measured success as nothing left to do but duplicate [no] 283 an old face a familiar face with lines now lines and sun freckles old friend are we not the same for appreciation with gray hair 284 I measure the wind I face the wind [summertime] I measure the wind against the bird I measure the wind was the storm approaches with darkness rain I measure the wind for sound against the trees against my door slamming I measure the wind 285 was the moon pushed the wind pushed the ocean [not really] was the moon pulled the forest again and again was the moon pulled the ocean again and again and the wind [and what it does to me] is fullness I stand in front of receiving a tide of 286 held the book to the sky said language and all of the sounds said meaning

a sense to this and to this and to this but he was no teacher and had no one to communicate with

287

the teacher taught language spelled things correctly so as not to be confused with miscommunication grew forehead lines and required glasses she was self taught [this is the best way to be] [after]

288

wisdom is constitution said they get along
pass freely between churches pass freely
from school to school and home
wisdom and with names on each of the structures
like signs like little corporations

289

the age of indifference said it is their turn said he looked into the mirror and out again and the rituals of death and being until he gathered his books in a little pile and named them for his family

290

the solid demeanor
there is a difference between fear and being prepared
there are people and things
which erode a confidence make one be
differently referenced

291

the sky grew dark and quiet immediately
[then the rain] and the wind started
hellfast and sideways pounding darkness and hail
lasted for a spectacle and cleared
[it is quiet now] [like summer again]

292 the language of nature taught the stations taught the cycles was forty years passed my own and I see this is to be expected most of this is to be expected 293 the wand lit demonstration force meets magic and conscience was a wizard [magic only works with a conscience] [like philosophy] 294 never will I be as I was carrying nothing and with no memory for interference it is time as learning and learning model is a heaviness comes with age brings one to thought 295 the weight of the universe is one he laid his head down down until it was let by the pillow the universe is matched against conscience for nothing for balance he slept 296 every life on this earth the categorical frames of being the deer feared the bears the omnivores the bears and the wolves at the moon the categorical ways of what a body requires

is capable of

```
297
they kept building structures kept putting about
frames [frames]
there was once a forest without end was once
an unstopped river
called nature called beauty
298
the lawyer represented
the teacher represented
the doctor was a teacher
the others represented what they believed
the others spoke and read
299
[I have kept freedom in a pocket]
[but that is far and away] [that is else]
[for to never consider freedom is to be free]
[what it is I require is an effort]
was the flowers required a seed
300
conceptual freedom is a vocabulary
comparative [theirs was only about theirs]
[God is no language is every language]
and that which is extinct was limited
comparatively
301
what does nature require but compassion
[they have tools to end the lives of the else]
[they are powerful] [call power by power's name]
they should live freely as they have
I say
302
but it was God interfered
it was a tornado
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took their home [said God]
and who can argue against almighty force
[am I not small now]
303
the weight of the universe is one
everything is a division of the universe
[started one to count] [what is included]
[and was a thought a heavy thought]
[still] [could not match being among]
304
the temple and the gone tribe
the temple still is
and covered with nature hidden
from the anthropologists the archaeologists
[concealed from the people]
305
bang crash
[metal on metal] [was steel against stone]
the collision is intentional they are digging [a hole]
[there is water] [there] [said a measurement]
[we] are making this habitable because
[money]
306
the visitors were no longer strangers
they had shared a meal had stayed overnight
[called friends] [now] looking back from
retirement
this is called wisdom [who would believe]
307
was the desert said the coyote
was the mountain said the bear
was the swamp said the cat
was the forest said the wolf
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was the prairie said the badger
308
I crept
among the wildflowers
with heavy feet
[thought]
is
309
the day began in earnest with
a risen coffee as halo
[speech]
[triumph] the risen step of
being
[I am] again
310
intentions and the thought of another
nor afterthought but
near to history and making
[esteem]
[was a dream returned her to] [I]
311
juggled a ball differently with one hand
held a thought in the other and
talked a poem to himself for practice it is
winter and cold elsewhere but I
I see the sun
312
sideways glanced at freedom
[sometimes it is difficult to tell]
was time and land [good land] [and]
[slow time]
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313 the train had no tracks carrying carbon and the weight of indifference [blow your horn] [there are people in the way] [getting pregnant with love] [in mind] 314 the lifted paragraph onna plane slipped through customs [going far away where] [they speak with their hands] had his photograph his blind photograph he plays the violin 315 laughter o laughter I begin to see reason when the moon is high like lunacy [contain oneself] make a riddle not a joke [is interest] 316 let the day because it balances without interference [and they continue to want fifty one percent] the weight of the universe is host to want to possession 317 I am freedom because I say I am freedom I say there is no detention there is no cable [it is the wind for memory] [and the night] [it is] [when there is no company to keep] [but] 318

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the simple wood bang bang
with the storm the roof
and now the water down down rush down
balance to the sweat the humid sweat
and the wind for now the open
windows [pour]
319
the parade o they sing holiday
and veteran [which war was that] [by your age I]
[say]
the old cars fixed and painted gone out for spectacle
once again with flags
320
the difference between then and now
I am older I no longer run I carry things
[like a hat]
I have a cane set aside for age
I have names for them and them who would not move
when asked
321
one two three the count goes so
I imagine the telephone line
how they would call in emergencies
and the birds atop
listening
[but there are no telephone lines any longer]
322
the way in which she grew old [alone]
but she was not alone
just without me nor waiting
though
[mine was never a game and I never supposed]
323
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the librarian
went to Barcelona when that car crashed into those people
went to Ethiopia when there were people starving
went to Venezuela when the election did not count the ballots
went to Ireland went to Dublin went to Trinity College to see an old book
324
winter is a goat
they named the goat and when
ready
they stopped the goat butchered the goat
ate the goat
325
the sun went behind the moon
and a shadow thus say darkness
like sorcery had I
not understood the nature of time
[the clouds were away] [today]
326
once in a time the risen sun
colors them clouds for a moment until the day
from black to blue sky
the clouds collect the pink and white
[I am] [nearly alert] [I am alert]
327
the fundamentals of astronomy
start with the sun and the moon
[but the stars]
[and math]
[math is introduced] [and conscience]
328
the end was a shiver
clipped his finger on a shard
[eight hundred years old]
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I am eight hundred years old and made a pot	
put it in the corner of my bedroom	