

Distractions

"Reaching"

Life's ambitions held in check
By the constraints of the 'ideal',
Those supposed standards
To which we are bound.
Too often we fly above
The clouds in the sky,
Only to Fall to the ground
With broken wings.
Back to the beginning
We cry for Freedom,
Only to be drowned
By an echo.

Matthew J. Collins

Letting go

In elaborate masks we shadow truth.
Only in desperate hours can we touch reality.
With time only the pain of loss can find escape.
Emotions of pain and remorse build chains
which bind the very soul.
Never letting memories erase into droplets
that form and fall to earth quietly and alone.

Blackness now falls heavily around me.
Like a blanket surrounds a new born,
The dark comforts my scared soul.
Pictures of us race past my empty mind
and my heart cries tears of sorrow.
But like a mask this curtain hides the tears
As fear becomes washed from the soul and baptizes the flesh.
Sand falls through glass bottles as life emerges in true form.

Shadow People

(a bid for vampires on Halloween)

Creatures of the night!
Fill with evil, dine on fright!
Be damned, immortal in one bite!
Roam free darkness until daylight!

Become an ancient devil; the genesis of fear!
Smile a blood thirsty leer!
Be a prophet of Hell, the damndest of seers!
Be an enemy to your very mirror!

Come! We drink blood to satisfy our Soul!
We save ourself from a graveyard hold,
Our aging hearts, black as coal,
Beating faster as the moon turns full.

A cross may keep us at bay
Until they are safe in light of day;
Without the night, we cannot stay
As our power, our souls, will burn away.

Sonim

Happy Birthday Dear

The phone rang tonight.
It was the woman who's been my mother
for the last forty-five years.

It's always nice to hear from her
-- I guess
-- I think
-- I suppose...

Ahh! Do I have to come in NOW!
But we're not done playing yet!

I don't wanna go to church!
I wanna watch cartoons!

Oh, p-l-e-a-s-e! Can't I stay up a little longer!

As I tried to reason with my adulthood to her
I just couldn't seem to squeeze my much effected modulation
for the buzz in my ear...

I'm not a kid anymore you know!

It's MY life and you can't tell me what to do!

All my friends get to stay out pass' twelve!
Why can't I!? IT'S NOT FAIR!

"I Know, Mom. I love you, too."

But
I hesitated.

"It's always good hearing from you, Mom."

See, Mommy! I did it a-I-I by myself!

"Thanks for calling, Mom."

Fused to the phone
my desperate hand thought
that if it held on
tight enough
long enough
time would freeze frame...

Bye-Bye, Mommy! I'll give Grammy a big hug for you!

"Bye, Mom. You take care now, okay."

And I hung up
another tear.

Lee Dugas

AS BOLD AS LUST

It happens in a cyclical process.
Starting with nothing it begins to show.
A gust of wind can get it going
And anything keeps it in line.
She moves slowly as the crowd watches her
She walks with a shy outgoing chaos
And captivates everybody and everything
With nothing but a certain prowess.
Euphoric looks, like fingernails slicing
Through the skin of your back.
Climactic pleasure always comes with
The sensual pain that she brings.
The final step always comes with hurt
Not the hurt she gives,
But rather the hurt she shows.
Nothing is as inevitable as her.
She is omnipotent over the world
And omniscient over everything.
Her name is death.

Aaron Berg

Looking at Tomorrow

The wind in my hair
blowing gently to and fro
I see the sun shine above me
in all its beauty
All of nature seems to be alive and well
serene as it is
for all to witness
These are the days
in which we feel alive,
for our spirits live forever
onto the next life
where we will all meet each other, again.

Tuhin Pal