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Robert Kelly Bard College

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When the Red Sea comes back together again the dream will change

Prince Moses will come home and be king, his house will be loud with names

nomina numina and signs will call out to signs and sand give way to grass

because all of history is a disordered dream each people dreams its own

and not a word of it is true except for me and you.

26 July 2012, Boston

All at once the waiting comes on board

anxiety cargo or vice-versa salt wood from a waiting sea always waiting.

The bliss is radical when it is at all. The call comes to the man not the way round.

2.

The bay wind comes in, white boat among the fisherfolk and always our Lady of Fatima queen of revolution and ultimate peace, blue-robed the sea herself will rise and quiet us, the snake crushed by her heel.

3.

Anything to begin again—

Ann and yes we always do the sea wind prompts the bay the sleek delay of young men in their muscle shirts handling cargo minding bells rattles horns the fruity bird beeps of smartphones. They do their job. I have come to doubt the word. What we say only sleeps beneath the sky. I have come to doubt the public word preachers and politicos and angry poets they all spoil language, sanctimonious blasphemers.

This is terrible, a morning doubt, I understand that all the things we say just offload our anxiety insecurity onto the listener.

I don't want opinion attitude politics of the impotent The Nation rootless radicals, Olson Snyder Pollett all the same—

only poiesis might be different the making that it can make

that lives below the sky

below the attitude is a heart below the heart is what we mean.

Clean me of opinions, even these. The magic happens despite the man, the trust to let it rise, Lorca Rilke HD Stein who know nothing but to speak.

And by speak I mean sing. And by sing I mean to me. To you, I mean, opinionless as I, stripped of fashion's politics.

On the rising of this hill calm empty mind to wake the word.

26 July 2012, Boston

This paleolithic mind stop before thinking

thinking is what culture gave you and it plagues the mind

with ceaseless minding. Doing. But there is a mind before the mind

all being and no thinking.

Want witch of river crack worth steady her mind a brick to build with. On. Heaven is an afterthought, an inference from grave's silences she makes. She silks. She sends. Her fetches fumble at my door and I give way. I meet her image with midnight mine

things change as you look at them then go back to their dark selves as soon as you look away.

What will happen now to money we are ready by evening

the money is hiding in the closet flirting with your aunt's fur coat the fog rolls in over the headland

each particle of it the breath of one drowned sailor so long the sea

so long the sea has had us.

## CASTA DEXTERA NUMINIS

From any deity or power any number of personations some of which are fondly female intensely chaste even when they burrow into us, our thoughts in flame, our practices made madly literal.

For chastity is literal and words are the chastest of all selves.

Meant to ask but was there to say pile up steps use bricks of known information till the higher you go up the broader the base must be ziggurat of learning or desire

or the shout of your work out into the kiss me on the mouth will just pass by. For learning is a desirous thing stronger than time weaker than an old man's memory.

We need more islands I have been wounded by my own desire and rest apart sea on all sides, a yard above it my small land

the boss wakes up before his slaves weeps at the fields he has ruined ominous feeling in the air another star is rising instead of the sun.

2.

Decided to be green and was gone decided to belong to another system and change the taste in his mouth and the color of his shadow.

But the breeze comes up same time as the sun

does air answer light does it all move together the sea is always working to understand.

By the hook off the road they believe that names of places are places

and warrant authenticity they believe the name of an object is somehow objective I have no beliefs in this matter, I'd say syntax objectifies more than any image does but what do I know. I know the moon will last as long as we can speak.

The sound of the wind spread over the roof of the mouth like a cloud covering the sky the whole sky, unbroken wrath of cloud wild wave oh escape into your desire.

The noises the ceremonies the religion the black tar on the road to the north— Hibernia, winterland the envelope with her name her hair dusty with plaster of Paris the shadow of light too big for such a little window inside nothing but an unsigned note to or from her, who can tell "Art is voiceless barbarism" she sits on the stool surrounded by her works of mind and hand like God in a vineyard in the cool of the evening.

Better is worse.

Richer is poorer.

You can't get out of this

by divorce or death—

both of those words leave a shadow in a place where the sun never comes

though we try for sunshine ever notice people get married in the afternoon when the light is strongest

and the heat greatest as if their two glorious bodies (I'm quoting Scripture) needed even more oil.

So they call this a wedding a word that means wager, making a bet, taking (old song) a chance on love.

Love. Are we here for that?

How close he is to us this Proust, unVeniced, disAlbertined, in love with his grief. The self is an argument no one can win

we need the sun. We do not like the sun, it burns the grass up and our skin loses luster. Pale grief of unmatched lovers, I love her because she is faithless hence needs me, love her because she is almost free. Every night for months he dined on her freedom. Then she took her trunks boxes bails of feeling, got into the Panhard and gone. Things go. Women and men as often as not are gone. But most we grieve for what we never had.

## CASIDA OF THE COUPLE

More than a touch of Oberon of Titania about these two

beautiful above the rest of us and full of gracious pull

so we are the sprites and clowns nobles and fairies they have summoned

to this wood (which is water) that nobody really knows.

Of course their quarrel ended in bed most likely and in talk

the magic kind of talk they own that makes us crave to listen

we human mortals who want for nothing when they are here.

It seems. King J and Queen C full of magical hypotenuses

so all the triangles to come will count them in—their world

is our world in 4D unpasteurized, upwelling

original. You wonder why they bother with a wedding

when they are so married, married in liberty married in mind—

I guess the wedding (which means 'wager') is just for us, a public exposition

of a private dream, plus cake, wine and cheese. And these

Spindrift acquaintances we are all lust and fidgeting and fret

it's for us they stage this show, this long examination of a simple fact.

But what fact? Don't tell me you never wondered what's inside

all that white taffeta so much of it and why it's white, and why

the groom behaves with rugged dignity in formal clothes, raiment

fit for a masquerade.

Like the little bride and groom on so many wedding cakes

they're just for show, nobody inside the formal shapes,

nobody home in the tux the naked king and queen are far away

already safe inside the invisible kingdom of maritum,

the married thing, the sacrament girl gives to boy in the dark.