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GRAVITY FEED revised

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GRAVITY FEED

1.
Gravity feed the maw awaiting—

think of clever things
then think away.

The sound you hear
is all you are.

2.
Wait for it is what I do

other for the other,

the others.

Bathing

Beauties of Rockaway,
the spill
of love left over when Time is done.

5.

Tamas has it too,
the names he knows
now of many things

so listen, sister,
the song says.

Love the new poets
answering the ocean,

knowing the song's
not in the throat
(that's opera, bud)

but in the mind.

6.

Hobbyhorse for rent
that's me, ride me
to your quested shore
and I'll be boat again
to take you there,
your secret place

doesn't even exist
till we arrive—
an old word means
to come to the banks of a river,
stagger ashore—
now no boat, no home, no me

he said.

7.

Phantasy integers
keep the machine happy,
you?

Numbers count nothing,

they are the dried stains
that colors leave
on the mind, the
“angstroms of affliction”
he called them
before he went away—

hespera men ên
evening and the conspirators
split blades of grass
and whistled through them
till the whole meadow
squealed and shivered—

go ahead, hurt my feelings,
punch the air.

8.

Well it usually does begin again.

It wasn't what he thought
but what he made you see,
Brakhage, that genius,

changed the way the world
knows how to come at us,
changed the time of seeing—
Hall's *Burning Glasse* lights up the mind—

speed was the trick

you can't see at all
if you don't see quick.

9.

But it all comes down
to coming down.
Standing is more exhausting than walking,

when you walk
you lift the world,

snatches of levity
hoist you before the fall,

red books on a lazy table
students hiding from whom they read,
peeking sometimes through masked eyes,

they know something's
buried in there. David Jones,
George Barker, Thomas Vaughan,
Thomas Browne.

The alchemy is all
in the waiting, in paying
attention.

In the athanor of the skull
a deathless peace.
Soul by soul the world escape.

10.

**Pay no attention when
they talk about the world.
Nothing to be said about it
it didn't already say for itself.**

**So shush, hush,
talk about something you
well if you don't understand it
at least you want,
or want it, or even
remember,**

**say the taste
of fish after you cut yourself on the can.**

12.

The sly beauty of the actual,
that's all.

Leave behind you bits of paper
scribbled up with writing

they'll find the right ones
eventually,

your zettelbuch,
you can be sure of that—

nothing is ever lost, alas.

13.

Her body changed while she was away from it.
When she came home
the legs were longer, the floor
seemed a long way down.
thinner, less interesting.

She bought a book
to tell her what to do
but all it said was I love you,
a useless sentiment at the best of times—

She dreamed she was a chandelier
and streamed light down to fill an empty room
by then the ground was really far away.

14.

So something has changed—
the wave curled in at Brighton Beach
minutes after Rockaway—

we intercept our fates
traveling perpendicular
between Jupiter —that tyro star—
and where we are.

A line of fate
runs down the palm—

my head anyhow is full of Gypsies,
I am the tower of Babel
I am in heaven
you are angels
staggering around—

or is fate somehow
different from what happens?

A secret elsewhere buried deep in here?

15.

Not sure how to spell that
would you repeat please
(engine running driver asleep
hedgerows full of gorse and fuchsia
how the rain brings the blossoms on)
not sure if it was wheel or wither
was it wheat or west or mill,
truckload of apples, Avalon?
Are you sure? Does it bite?
Take off your house and wear the sky,
I know you're shy,
keep talking fast, they won't see your eyes.

16.

And down it sinks
the thing you mean—

no names please
we're all lovers here—

don't you think pronouns are beside the point?

17.

**But *Hammerklavier* is what he wrote
music defined by its instrument,**

**the womb that bore it
brass and wood and steel**

**as if I were to call these words
men or women walking in a peculiar land**

**because you are my music too
I heard you with my hands.**

11 September 2014