

5-2007

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Can I be here with the earthmen,  
can the whisker of a cat  
row my Ra boat through space  
where I belong to everything I hear,

I hear the Moon! I hear the equinox  
grinning through the bars of time,  
a dog, a dog is a miracle!

But what about a sparrow  
eating a piece of bread I was eating from  
a minute back, what  
is on the other side of that?

30 May 2007  
Rhinebeck

= = = = =

I need to tell you every little thing,  
the most destructive force in the world  
is intelligence without culture.

Not everything you see is there to be seen,  
there is more to this listening than meets the ear,

the face of darkness has a profile too,  
cute nose, determined chin,  
when we kissed we held  
the whole world in our mouths  
long enough to swallow – now where is it?

Our whole world is gone.  
We stand before the judgment seat of God  
and only the sparrow has anything to speak.

30 May 2007  
Rhinebeck

= = = = =

Can tell from the way she walks  
all she cares about is money.  
Her children are itemized deductions.  
Her husband is a cow.

30 V 07, Rhinebeck

## INVISIBLE MILL

where the Metambesen  
spun the wheel,  
the weaving.

That was power,  
an animal, even a sheep.  
is power. It is a being  
alive in its own skin  
full to the last micron  
with itself.

Can you say that,  
staring sadly down  
at the wheel-less cataract  
of the Sawkill, always,  
always feeling something is  
missing, can you?

All night you hear  
the hurry of it, water,  
you think it's just water.

30 May 2007  
Rhinebeck

## SUNSET

The ghosts are driving around tonight.  
I saw Dick Higgins driving up Station Hill Road—  
one of his greatest performance pieces ever,  
a posthumous presence,  
wordless, utterly convincing.

    Here I am  
    a lustrum  
    into death,  
    I still drive cars,  
I still have a face that men can see and read  
at sunset, the air full of birds.

30 May 2007  
KTC

## JEUX D'ENFANTS

Open some door  
say some word

B

Water the flower  
earth the air

B

Fire wins all arguments  
try not to listen,  
try not to disagree

B

Peacefully arrive

B

Hide the closet in you  
Hide the sky in the house

B

Do something else

B

Do something same  
by thinking about it again

B

Play cards with the moon.

31 May 2007



## GEOMETRY LESSON

Try to get it right at last.  
Pick the line up  
and spread it out  
gently sideways till its wide  
then walk on it.  
There, that's the way.

31 May 2007

## IVORY

It is our Ivory Anniversary  
but I have no ivory to give you  
I have no elephant to take it from.  
And wouldn't it I could, having had  
my share of tusk torture  
in my own big mouth. White,  
smooth, expensive is not everything,  
we're not pianos.

But still I tried to find a surrogate.  
Camel bone is often faked as ivory  
but we're not going anywhere,  
no caravan of salt. Then a website tried  
to sell me mammoth ivory  
from tusks of dug-up Siberian beasts.  
It would be like giving a lover death  
itself, or a hollow bone full of ghosts,  
a thing with ten thousand years on it  
dug out of inconceivable catastrophe.

No ivory for you. But everything else  
is, and is for you because  
you know the way of things.  
If there were ivory you would make it play,  
you would use it better than an elephant I bet.  
It would rest around your neck, white key sonata,  
the light playing on it soft the way it does,  
ivory necklace maybe, or a single bead.

But that's moot. No ivory. But I mean  
an ivory thought at you, like a fountain pen  
that writes on the air words  
people could breathe in. That you could breathe.  
Or like a gull wing soaring low  
at daybreak, paradox of white  
when there is nothing there but us.