A Poetic Ambivalence

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FOREWORD

This is a collection of poems written by me and shared on my Instagram account, which I started in late September of 2013. I didn't start posting my poetry until a week later, and as my followers grew so did my readers, I became shocked at how much more feedback for my work I was getting than on Facebook. Who knew? By November I was writing one to two poems a day, short pieces that I'd post using an image app to improve presentation.

Well, here presentation is limited to the bare essentials.

Just the text has been transferred here, written from my eye to what I've posted and down on the keyboard. Theoretically I could've inserted the images to make it easier, but the authenticity as a writer wouldn't be the same.

The title of this collection is pretty obvious—2013 had a horrible start for me and it shows in some of my poetry, as I held a bitter resentment for someone throughout the year. Having just recently resolved and put it behind me, I'm confident in moving on entirely. Nonetheless I'm not going to discard those poems! They still hold my feelings and words in all honesty, and as a passionate writer I still believe they act as part of a whole that helped stitch my wounds and keep me standing.

Okay, enough run-on sentences.

The poems have been written here in reverse-order, so the last ones of 2013 will be read first. If you wish to read it in the order that I originally wrote them, then start at the last entry. Or you could read them haphazardly! That is the beauty of a vast poetry collection, which I hope you enjoy.

Thank you for your time and interest.

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1

END OF ACT II

The rungs have been stripped from their posts
And I believe the summit might be unreachable
But still do my nails claw into the wood
Purchase acquired and avidity unearthed.
There is nothing but bottomless shadows beneath me
And I'm not going back.
I said I could never leave, they reassured me
That I'd been right, but in the coming weeks
I will prove them wrong.
I will bleed my way to the peak.

2

WRITTEN OFF

He couldn’t hear the voices
Seeping through his words
But he could feel the ink sting
As he emerged from his lair
To chase the skeletons they
Had managed to resurrect
How far would he follow them?
He asked himself as he tripped
Over every nightmare and every
Fucking regret he’s digested
What did the end have in store
For a lost soul like himself?
He hoped at the very least
He could dig his own grave
With the same words that
Have brought him to life

3

FULL-BLAST MUTING

I want to slip my headphones on
Press play on your face and
See your eyes sing the lyrics
I want to watch your lips move
To the silence of nonexistence
As screams rupture my cranium
You can smile or you can frown
While the guitars carry me away
Or you can share the commotion
And we'll both melt like magma
But for now I'll set it all aflame

4

SAVEN

Inside out, she squirmed
New life beckoned her to live
Canopies sagged to greet her
Screams not her own echoing
From lips that quivered
A terrible cold iced her bones
The sound of fluttering wings
Graced her pallid ears
A silhouette formed in her eye
Reflected off the night
Daylight whispered a hand
She wept a smile
And reached up

5

An Aberrant Love

The night pulls him together
Only to tear him apart again
Monsters abounding from niches
Jaws closing around his dreams
Another hell to survive in
Alone and comforted yet
When the abominations recede
He finds his peace incomplete
He will die here in due time
With a jagged smile on his face

6

DEFIBRILLATOR

She wept that her heart had ended
Mutilated and torn out by him
I stared in marvel, called her a paradox
Quizzical, she asked what I meant
I said that this made her a zombie
But she's neither hideous nor emotionless
So I reassured her, as I will you
That your heart remains still
Only with a new cavity
Fill this, I told her, with the love
You know you fucking deserved

7

TARYN

She's a soft enigma
With rigid defenses
A key to her tranquility
Wards off malevolence
Her eyes are distant water worlds
Relieving me from this urban jungle
She dreams of peace
Words bolstering strength
But I see it alone in there
Powerful piece by piece
Shed her spirit into the air
Just might blind me to death

8

WE DON'T NEED YOU!

Who needs you here?
You are an asshole
And nobody likes those
I want my peace
I'll take it by the horns
I'll bounce and laugh my way
Out of your cold, rigid grasp
I'll talk to myself if need be
Unashamed, insane
You are hereby expelled
You can GFY, bad vibes
I'll listen to my metal
Until my ears bleed
And write 'til my fingers blister
I'll sing to myself
'Til the neighbors call 5-0
We don't need you
Dig your own grave
I'm going to work on burying mine

9

Too

She flew above the clouds
Singing a song only few knew
She wove veins like sinew
With stylized super glue
Her air tasted of crystal dew
Far from blue, her joy grew
This is what I do, I said
In lieu of your captivation
We are not one but two
In the same, renewed

10

Fit To Drown

At last he reached the surface, only to be
Sucked right down under.
Rain was pattering the water and he could
Hear waves breaking a distant shore
Almost as loud as the sound
Of his own soul crumbling.
He drowns screaming mutely, his voice
Unheard among the smiles of the beautiful.
When he sees them
He donates his lungs to the depths.
I'll donate my lungs to the depths
Fuck this life I am not worth it

11

VOICED COMFORT

That voice that holds me
In place, bound by silk chains
Those words which embrace me
Like love, composed of painlessness
Does not belong to you
Because they don't exist
In this same plane
But that's okay, because
I'm used to unreality

12

EXPERIENCE THE DIFFERENCE

When you tell me you don't like to read

Well I'm not going to lie, neither do I

There's a difference in the experience

When you have one of my books

You're feeling around the hooks

13

Son of Ascension

Son of ascension
I look to the clouds
Seize a thunderbolt
And guide it down
Quake the pastures
Reminding humanity
Why I was given
A heart and brain
Some love and pain
Will lift us higher

14

GOOD RIDDANCE

He was an awful thing
Ugly all around, unfit for life
He'd only wreck chances
To make his darkness go away
He would sink his claws
Into his own face out of anger
And make the joy bleed
Because he knew it was fleeting
His doubts were a cloak
And his name was Jacob Dring
I'm just glad he's gone
So that I can breathe more clearly

15

THE GOLDEN REACTION

I listen to music for the reaction
My body, my mind, my heart gets from
Ingesting the rhythms and voices
I write for the responsiveness
My body, my mind, my heart gets from
Imbibing the feelings and viscera
I guess I should've known that's why
We could never work out, you and I
Because you like the sounds
And you love the words
But beyond that they do nothing for you
And I don't find robots sexy

16

REQUIEM TRANSITION

I see you smiling
I feel my day open wide
The night beckons me
These clouds won't fade
Until your moon shines
And your eyes gleam
That smile recedes
I'm still left avid
And when the clocks
Stop their weeping
I feel like you were
Never even here

17

WITHDRAWN

I remember the look on your face
When I put it away
As if the world had ended
And the lights in your eyes
Dimmed because I locked it up
After so much exposure
I thought you'd be grateful
After so much advice
I thought it wouldn't be painful
But now that it's gone
You seem to be, too

18

PURE

I wanted to kiss her
But Kay said I couldn't
I wanted to love her
But my pockets said I shouldn't
I wanted to have her
But she said I already did

19

Scars By Dawn

He awoke with scars on his back
Had something attacked him
While he twisted and turned
In his tomb of inert quietude
Or had something finally tried
To escape his skin, his confines?
He felt incomplete, regardless
But how different was that from
Any other day he's breathed?
Now his fingers glide over them
And the question marks sear
New scars in a place unseen

20

SURPREYES

Why won’t you open your eyes?
The parting of the trees
The screaming of a breeze
We’re all in for one big surprise!
The moon is falling
The night is calling
Why can’t you see your true size?

21

THE WALL

I want to understand why
You've built this brick wall
It towers between us
Mortar made from silence
My conscience can guess
But the options are scary
I'd rather believe in the best
If this makes you happy
Then by all means
Let me help you build more
We'll make it higher
And I'll embrace the silence
So long as you are at peace
I just hope my pages
Don't rot away on your shelf
And the ambiguous contentment
Lasts as long as our severance

22

A New Pair

I broke a spell today
But I can still taste it in the air
I exchanged my doubts
For a new pair of willpower
I broke a habit today
And watched it spiral away
But I can still feel an itch
Except that my nails are short
So I resume my path
Down a harrowing road
Full of timeless shadows
And a pair of binoculars
That help me see the hope
Out of place, but
Not out of reach

23

LIVE & LET DIE

The sky's on fire
The grass is a liar
Who wouldn't want to fly
In a world like this?
My heart wants higher
My pen's mightier
Who wouldn't want to die
In a world like this?

24

Wish List

Just another second
Under these trees
Just another minute
Against this breeze
Just another hour
Quivering my knees
Just another day
Must I say please
Just another week
We'll be busy bees
Just another month
Make the pain freeze
Just another year
And we can release

25

WHAT MATTERS

I'll feel nothing when you fall
As I felt nothing when you rose
Don't get me wrong here
You filled my heart with love
When you turned on me
This is, it isn't meant for you
I suppose that's because
You showed me the hollowness
Behind wings stolen
And those justly earned
Distinguishing has been easier
Than it ever was forgetting you
But now my heart
Knows the difference

26

THE ONLY KIND I'M FIT FOR

I am one with love
I only want sounds
And the sight it takes to taste them
I only want words
And the strength it takes to grow them

27

Sea Dragon Eyes

She had sea dragon eyes
Luminescent, oceans in them
The longer our gazes held
The more I believed that
At any moment I might drown
But in her eyes swam
Beautiful, fierce creatures
Capable of so much
Than any man could imagine
So I stood there, waiting
For one of them to seize me
Hopeful that they'd spare me
So that this moment
Could last a second longer

28

DON'T FORGET

That feeling of pain in your face
When time exceeds your
Expectation
That feeling of exhaustion and
Satisfaction
When mirth is the simplest way
To put it
I miss that feeling
Hours after I feel it

29

WETGLASS

Synchronized with the rain
I fall every time I hear you sing
It’s like a voice from the clouds
Condensation inside my blood
Glistening across the road
I shatter every time you breathe
Can’t wait for you to never leace

30

Pinky Promise

If there's one thing I know, know
It's that I could swim for days in your gaze
And what perplexes me most
Is how your craze doesn't vex me
I see, I see the way you call my name
And I can feel my heart leap for yours
It's a mad dash, a thing of faith
And if there's one thing I know, I know
It's that I could get lost in your breeze for centuries

31

SETUSAFLAME

I just want to see us
The way we're meant to be
Insiders on fire
Ice across skin
Gazes adrift
Hair on end
Tongues lashing
Teeth gnashing
We're of the earth
Not the circuit
Time we start acting like it

32

THE BEST FOR HER

There are so many people in this world
Some looking for a life meaning
Others seeking to just unfurl
The ocean is vast but the predators wise
I want her to find solace
In a heart void of malice
But if you find your way to her
And you bite before you purr
I will tear you apart
No hesitation, no ignorance
I will tear you apart

33

Noise

I drop down on my knees
I'm growling through my teeth
Clawing at the bones beneath
Searching for a release
Something to bring me peace

Can anyone hear my voice
Or am I just screaming noise?
I've long since lost my poise
Discarded amid the forgotten toys
Is my existence just an annoyance?

34

TIDAL CHANGE

Turn the tides
Watch the water illuminate
Your reflection
Brings more than you think
Turn the tides
Feel the break of concerns
Mist your skin
And remind you of beauty
In the tides
You control

35

THE ALTERNATIVE

The thunderheads part
And even in a nightmare sky
Do my stars grow bright

My demons scurry off
As the monsters take form
There is pain, not mine

A visceral escape
I'll take it over the decomposition
It's the only way
Out from this storm of nonfiction

36

Escape From Nowhere (Highsolation)

They slinked between the trees
As if they were towering umber walls
Twirling like shadows with hearts
Carried by the whim of the night wind
Thoughts brushed their tongues
In a lilting tune that mocked the birds
Their destination was unclear
But they knew this wooded asylum
Was a finite haven at best

37

PROVED OTHERWISE

She said she couldn’t write
But with my ear to her chest
I begged to differ, yet she persisted
So I closed my voice and kissed her
From then on every breath is poetry
Like musical literature she subsists
I should’ve put money on it
But that kind of thing is priceless

38

LITERARY BLOOD

What did you expect?
It's a terrible thing to press pause
The pen sways where it doesn't belong
I cannot put on hold my thoughts
What did I expect?
For better or worse, I'll always bleed
My inner turmoil and reveries
And misplaced love
The only way I know

39

Opaque Dedication

I want to dedicate oceans
To the way your eyes swim
I want to dedicate mountains
To the way your voice rises
I want to dedicate everything
To the way your nothing is something
But I haven't a name to pin
Only a face, and even then
What features are there but clouds?

40

Whatever It Is

Can you feel that burn?
It's like silk on our breath
The sensation of hearts colliding
It isn't love, whatever it is
But I don't want it to stop
Although it must first begin
And I can only imagine so much
I've grown sick of this mind
I long for yours in unity

41

A Wise Premonition

One day those who call
Themselves wicked
Will inherit the earth
And those who call
Themselves righteous
Will learn a thing or two

42

END OF THIS STORY

End of disarray
On a fiery approach
Must beckon patience

Some scars and fragments
Won't bring upon my downfall
Instead pave my path

A lonely walk still
It's become most familiar
This hatred ends now

43

Not Meant For Two

All the things dripping down my window
Remind me of who I was, who I've been
Made to feel like, nothing
But who will I be, beckons the questions
I want to say, anything
So I drive my fist into my eyes and hear
The glass shattering
Can you hear me now? Can you see me
More clearly than before? Can you feel me
Like I thought I could feel you?

No, no, no.

I'll hold the pain, all by myself
I'll bleed where it takes me
Into my own hands

44

Art In Its Greatest Form

She has poetry eyes
And photography lips
Scenic skin, like glaciers
Art drips from her tongue
And she moves in music
She has a hold on me
But my hands are
Inadequate

45

MOMENTOUS PATH

Heaven shall neither
Slow nor pause
For your progression
Hell, however, shall rise
Faster because of it
You must only pursue
With greater haste the
Choices of right
To achieve the bliss
You and your enemies
Know you deserve

46

Far From Colorless

Shadows shifted around her face like hair
Skin pale and immaculate, yet blemished
Irises so dark they seemed colorless
A smile existent but on a stealth mission
Spectral light kept from her features
Not because they didn't warrant luminance
But simply because they better used murk
To amplify her enigmatic beauty

47

REALEYEZATION

So many eyes tell lies
I try to evade their waves
But still get caught in their smog
I wait for the day that I'm repaid
For my time and pain with no gain
To find myself in the haze of a gaze
That speaks truth but won't let me loose
I suppose we all deserve to dream
As for reality, I no longer believe

48

YES, SHE SAID

I recall the way the sky looked
When it wore your name
The smile on your face lit up
And your eyes, like stars
You wept with joy the word yes
And the clouds became us

49

THE STRONG WEAKLING

She was a dust particle
Flayed and barbed
She wouldn’t slip between the cracks
As you or I might
She wouldn’t go down without a fight
But she’d go down
With burnt skin
And daggers for eyes
She was a dust particle
One of a kind

50

STRANGERS OF THE SAME

A scar on the face called a smile
Stretches in the presence of company
A false notion in the head called diffidence
Swells when speaking with an admirer
From afar stands a boy whose face
Feels so battered with scars this it doesn't exist
Whose head just might burst from false notions
A possibility he'd sacrifice to see her happiness

authenticate

51

HIDE AND GO FLY

You can’t hide from these twisted memories
Better if you do as I did and set them aflame
As such I rode the smoke into the sky on waves
Materialized a cape from them as if fleece
No, you can’t hide, from this you can’t hide
At least, now that you know, unless in plain sight

52

THE CORRIDOR

Black bags hung on the windows
A crisp wind swept on by me
Arid leaves varied through the tunnel
I could see faces blurred on the walls
But their voices were detached

I approached the door and pulled
The light was enrobing and beautiful
I gave thanks to the torrents
They brought peace to my past
And I closed that door with a great slam

53

(DE)CONSTRUCTED

Tongues like jet engines
Voices of rabid hydras
Energy on the Richter scale
My bones shudder
Skin flees and succumbs
Flesh only one limit
My mind's warped for it
Viscera wrangling
Nothing will ever be the same

54

The Awful Mystery

I hate you with all of my heart
I scream until my voices bleeds
I cry horrible things that shatter glass
But they never even reach the air
And so it rattles all of my insides
Maybe that's why I still love you
I'd take a fucking bullet for you
Maybe that's why I still hate myself

55

Enjoy Your Monster

He was cold, he was steel
Rigid, bleak – blue, gray
He was everything
You wanted in a man
But the issue remained
For he was no more a man
Than you were
A zombie in human clothing

56

PERMANENCE

I remember when I was a
Blade of grass
Cast beneath the serenading
Shadows
Riddled with hopefulness and
Doubt
As if a flickering flame in the
Wind
But still do I taste the mist on
My skin
Even as the crowds like leaves
Thicken

57

A Necropolis Breathes

Interweaving, we march
Like waves of sand
Through dense forests
Emerald wounds blaring
For attention, concern
A deepening omen
Finds our path removed
Like a bridge rising
From a sodden grave
Interweaving, we march
Through walls of decay
We will blossom anew
Our entrails adorned
As well they should be

58

ROUTE OF INCOMPLETION

Another fallen shade
Reminded of the grays
You woke me up
Like a shot from a gun
A knot to do us in
You can't die
The world is shit
Route of incompletion
I'll wake you up
There's a lot to be done

59

F(LAWS) OF A HUMAN

It stings to be human
I've been called ugly and weak
For bleeding humanity
It feels painfully soothing to be
The trainwreck I am
Leaking and dying slowly alone
Meant to be human

60

UN(BREAK)ABLE

Rip through metal and flame
I'll complain later, no time now
Burn through sun and cranium
I'll pain in future, never present
Not the way I feel
Not the way I feel
Right now, last forever
Break the pause button
Break me the way I love

61

Dissolution Solution

Shadows dancing across my gaze
I just want to fade into the gray
Swim through the meaninglessness
Drift for so long I forget my place
Trace the lines of nonexistence
No right and wrong only oblivion
I want to be dust in the sunlight
Dissolve without fight or weight
Leave the flesh to permeate a haze
No confusion but clarity in vacuity

62

My Girl, Wasn't

She sat on my lap, up high
Hair tickling my face
I kissed her shoulder
Told her not to leave me
She giggled and wiggled
My sky grew heavy
I squeezed her leg
She leaned back, smiled
Splintering my dream

63

Crumbling Up

This contusion is tearing me
Away from the Milky Way
That your eyes form before me
I'm climbing your cliff face
Looking for answers
In the shapes of your heart
But you can't hide the key
This contusion won't persist
I'll mend with your anything

64

PAUL WALKER

Flash, crash, to the stars

On the ground, amid the gas giants

Fast, rash, racing cars

Soul abound, living life in defiance

65

Not My Voice

They told me
I wasn't meant for you
Just a delusion
I was living in a dream
Where I'd fail
I wasn't worth anything
Except pain
They told me
Then I made them liars

66

Waves Unseen

"It's alright…"
Let the sounds puncture you
Seep into your heart, under skin
That place where a shield grows
Healthy is your love, ill your trust
But you are capable of much more
You know it, you feel it in tranquility
When the sounds carry you
On waves unseen but felt
This is your life, no what if
This is your heart, open up
To that which kisses you dearest

67

GIFTED

You’re fiction, I know
But I can feel your story
Flow through my veins
Like needles of ice
Bone-chilling and savory
It stings to feel you
Taste my life, and more
But it’s worth it
No more regrets
We’re imperfection
As perfectly perceived
As your table of contents

68

EMBOSSED

She walked into my room
Walls shuddering with each step
Lips dripping from her irises
Lashes batting away sorrow
She held my heart in teeth
Pinched and bruised, unbroken
God this is where I belong
The in between of ripped seams
Wings covered by strands
That now dance in my face

69

BETTEROFF

Where is my sight, where is my love?
When you fell up the stairs, I cried for us
Beauty in your eyes, lie in your voice
Your lips wanted me, but your heart
Was on vacation with another idea
Where is my sight, where is my love?
The truth is whispering me awake
You crushed my dreams, so leave them
My sky doesn’t deserve your disease

70

Mother Dawn

Parting the trees with a whisper
She licked fire across the sky
Spawning verve in her children
And comforting a million souls
She reminded us of the marvel
Even after all was at its darkest

71

PURSED PROMISES

Smeared your lips across the
Glass
Like the blood of cherries in
The rain
I fell to my knees trembling
Planets
And found the answer in your
Eyes

72

ANTIHERO

I'd play your guardian
Pray to god it's that way
Or else your eyes will lie
Belated truth in shame

I can feel your anticipation
The reflections sink in
No realization like this
You know that I'm reality

73

GET UP

If I could wake up from this dream
I'd shed the shadows from my light
Set foot in the blossoming tunnel
Take a stroll through the valley
Monsters ripping at my heels
And I'd wake up, again and again
I'd wake up all over again
For the first time I'd just breathe in

74

FOR SELECT SOULS ONLY

Rollercoaster thoughts
TNT irises and silk palms
Braille to paralyzed crows
Black waterfalls
From an invisible crown
Chromosomes of gold
Behind opaque curtains
She is everything
That you could want
But you never will
You blind motherfuckers
I pity the seas of you

75

A Penny Monsoon

A sky, distended and beautiful
Bleeding wishes and dreams
All that we've ever thrown at it
As they pour down now, so heavy
You look afraid, doubt in your eyes
It pains me to see us this way
I know your smile will survive
But only after your ego dies
And in the chaos we will thrive

76

A(WAY)

This comfort's left me withered
Like a separate world adrift
Ascending the barbed rope
They won't forget my faces
Nor the trails left by my blood
But they won't see the meaning
And that's okay, because I will
Find my path in a black hole
It's all I've come to know

77

SOJOURN

Passing under the stars
While the sun bats its eyelashes
A voice seeps through the asphalt
I think I can hear colors
Dancing across the void
Yellow dashes and jagged shoulders
Whatever my outcome
I know I'll bleed a lot more clearly
When I can taste that voice
And go to sleep beneath real stars

78

Found A Way

Another soul wakes
As the night decays
A hole forms in them
Deflecting light to mend

Some wounds bleed in silence
While others speak up to find us
But I have risen from my grave
Time to illuminate my next cave

79

THE TERMINATOR EFFECT

Displaced and disarrayed
I am the scattered, like rainfall
Disbanded and dismayed
I am matterless, like the mist

I want to collide and reform
Take my flaws so that I may arise
I want to collect and storm
My dreams without breaking stride

80

Weigh Your Options

Morning dew slicks my brow
And as gorgeous as the sky looks
I'm still here asking how
This all came to be and I'm shook
Not understanding the logic
Is it love or hate, what do I call it
When I hate myself but love life
Or is it the other way around?
Never again to touch the knife
I refuse to let go of the sound

81

LIFE: GREATEST HITS

I searched far and wide for this place
Where the dragons thread the **clouds**
And **whales swim** in the skies
I hear their **songs** as planets expand
And you rummage for happiness
There are **thousands of days** for you
I wish smiles among all of them
And **mirrors** of good memories
Wherever you choose to venture

82

(Insert Clever Title Here)

Eviscerate your sun
And skin your silence
Enough of the delay
You can take my gun
And end the violence
Your pendulum sways
At the sound of my heart
I loathe the day of departure

83

Hope Dawns

A ring of gold settles on the horizon
I stare out with wide eyes and bright bulbs
Seeking your name among the clouds
I want to hold your hands without extending mine
And fine mutual peace in the silence
Before the thunder wakes us yet again

84

Bottle Opener

A brain rattling with thunderclouds
Opaque with reason, solid in doubt
He walks alone, just as he was born
Under dim lights and weeping stars
A muscle lashing out all in silence
Strength in verve but hidden away
A plaything to some, heart to none
He feels the rain swallow him whole
As if he were no more than ashes
But his fingers still writhe with life
Conduits for mute vocal electricity
And even against each breaking wave
He knows he'd never resist the surge

85

I Was the Host to Your Party but You Left Early

I swallowed you whole
Because I didn't know
And now that I do, I hate myself
Torn apart from the world like hell
My own personal version
I was your perfect diversion
So I wash my walls of hope with tears
Then drowned myself in dismal years
But time stands still while I fade
I can only wish to throw it…away

86

IN MORE WAYS THAN ONE (PANET)

You're home, I know, in more ways than one
And you're loved, all around
And it shows through the parting horizon
Though I hate that there's no more I can say
And I hate that you've been taken away
But somehow, somehow you never even left
I just wish you'd stay…

87

More Than Paper-Thin

Traces fallen through
The seams in your eyes
I know I will find weight
On the shoulders of trees
But in the meantime
I will hope beneath you
And your gloomy tunnels

88

As You Deserve

I will board my chariot
And ride the black waves
Casting into perpetual abyss
The creatures that belittle you
Their night will be forever
And yours will be no less than sunny
I will ride until the wheels shatter
My steeds' feet will disintegrate
But I'll crawl afoot and strike down
All those darkened valves
To your fucking beautiful heart
And you will be as you deserve
Happy and smiling and buoyant
I'll make sure of it
I want to make sure of it

89

WASTE DISPOSAL

My creations will decompose
In your collection they don’t belong
Instead a necropolis for words
Full of meaning but somehow empty
Thanks to you and your neglect
Pages bled out of me
That you’ll never read

90

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

On this day, the world changed
You might not see it as clearly
As I've begun to grasp the belief
But in small ripples you've helped people
Of past, present, and future
Now during this harrowing path
That you've so boldly undertaken
Wish a fresh smile and magnified heart
I can foresee only success as you depart
While holding onto the virtues
That make you who you are and who they'll choose

91

In Pursuit Of

He chased the cheetahs across the sunset
Until the sky bled his name along the plains
A foreign verve filled his blood
And he found himself beloved
By who, there was none
By what, there was only one
And it stretched throughout the world with eyes
That found his heart in so many places
He couldn't describe it if he tried
But he realized that he didn't need to
He realized that it sufficed
To know that he wasn't chasing hope alone
And eventually the cheetahs would tire
But he could only go higher

92

Storm, No More

I followed your raindrops
Into the clouds high above
The place where you keep your heart
I found the core of your grief
I beat it down into ice
And together we casted it away
Now there's a hurricane
Now there's a girl
Without the burden of pain

93

Go To Them

Hands with brazen wings
Glide over seeds of life
Carried by a breeze beyond
The realm of these gossamer walls
Reminding him of the purpose
He has indubitably not forgotten
But within him swells pain
Which he refuses capitulating to
It will only drive him farther
Until the songs kiss his heart
And his toes taste brine
Crashing waves of endless elation

94

BE GONE

Why won't you leave me be?
Why can't you let me sleep?
I've done nothing to harm you
I did everything to please you
Get the fuck out of my head
Get the fuck off of my bed
These dreams are corrupt but they're
Mine
These dreams have had enough of your
Kind
Won't you please let me move on?
Won't you please be fucking gone?

95

A Skyward Descent

Open your umbrella
And prepare the brain
Our sun is collapsing
And nobody is safe
You will fall, let us see
How far you've come
Through a sea of pity
Or wise up and smile
Let us not be mistaken
Open your arms, fall
And we can rise as one

96

FUCK YOU, WINTER

When I walked outside
The night took me in
A stygian ceiling smiled
But I only felt it glare
Its gauche ornaments
Were a bit reassuring
Though its icy embrace
Strangled my comfort
As if trying to ravage
What little joy I held
And the shadows about
Kept to themselves
But still do I feel them
Murmuring me asleep

97

OVERCAST

God, the clouds tear me inside out
Where is the thunder, all I feel is lightning
Just want to cuddle up with a book
I forgot her name but I recall her words
She can be paperback or hardcover
I just want to caress her soft pages
Fold together beneath the raging storm
Forget the touch of the acid rain
We can wash off the stain of melancholy
Or I'll lie here dreaming of the day
While the artificial night devours my everything

98

GOOD,NIGHT

As I drift off I recall the colors
Like eviscerated rainbows outstretched
A spectrum so beautiful it wounds
So lay me to rest with these menageries
Floating through my head haphazardly
A myriad of things beyond placid
To lure me into a cloud of infinite form
And embrace me with kaleidoscope wings

99

MIGHTIER THAN THE SOUND

He sits alone in his prison
Fabricating fibers and monsters
External worlds and characters
Seeing red and
Breathing lead
He ponders when the bars will part
And the ceiling might lift above his heart
For where he's been
He's come to accept
With minimal regret
Desiring little change
Except to see a strangers
In the mirrors he finds to share his fate

100

Writing To Stay

I want to write love for you
But I cannot
I want to write a new life for me
But I cannot
I want to write the demons away
But I cannot

All I can do is write my pain away
Until it returns
But this time I write to make it stay
This time I write
Not for a new life but to take mine back
It'll be the last time
I ever wish death upon my existence

101

EXPRESSION

Just because I scream your name
And the way my veins weep for you
Doesn't mean that I'm vexed or irate

I believe you underestimate my heart
And the methods of my aortic bridge
These breaths have dealt with dismay
For over two decades, so won't you
Please understand that I'm trying here
To sift through the pain to find the love
That I know you so thoroughly deserve

102

Y(OUR)S

A voice reaches out to you
But it is not quite mine
The words speak my tongue
But the lungs aren't mine

You will be as deserved
By hands with my intent
Seeking to feel you smile
But the touch is not mine

I won't stop dreaming for you
These will never not be mine
Except for when my wishes come true

103

MINDFUL DECAY

The sun cooks the bark like bone
On the tree of reason, its roots
No less than arid snakes in the mud
And clouds creep overhead, alone
Carrying thunderous incredulity
One is to look up and swallow fear
Who are we but lost in this place
Found by the faces of a mirage
Deceived and led into a dry end
Hopeful for a rain that will bring
Upon us the end of this suffering

104

DIVIDED

I don’t need high resolution
To detect your radiance
The beauty seeps through
The fuzziest of eyes and skin
Through your words and silence
Stars have no effect here
It is only you and I on an ocean
Braided with severed ropes
We’ll be awake for the millennia
And then I’ll die alone beneath
The soil of my faded conscience
Seizing a notion of opaque hope
In the form of you and I

105

A Collective Desire

Only words are keen
To what passes our tongue
The monsters I've seen
Would leave you all undone
But my notions aren't mute
I only wish you too could be heard
Even our demons can be cute
Follow your heart, not the herd
And embrace the fleeting thought
Since it is your mind for which we've fought

106

DIEWITHME

Lips like razors
And eyes of lasers
We kissed until
Saturn escaped its rings
We danced until
Jupiter swallowed itself
Hair like black mambas
And orgasms of bombs
We sought to die together
Only so we could live forever

107

NOTHINGTOFEELHERE

Hell blossomed in your eyes and
When you smiled, I smelled the fire
Your tongue was serpentine and
Oil cascaded in waves of hair
I thought I'd dreamt of this night
But as it turned out, I preferred
To keep my soul than give it to you
Now all I have is the cavity that
You've burrowed into me and
A thicket of venomous memories

108

GIVE TO GET

I look to the sun
But see only a moon
Beneath which we creatures crawl
And above us the angels soar
I taste a sting at my lips
And feel a warmth on my neck
This feeling that I've lost track of
Would surrender my heart
If I could only have it back
And I might have to do just that

109

GOODFUCKINGNIGHT

As time dies
And so do I
Hate feeling this way
Life life's peeling away
Wish I could be you
Admired and aloof
But instead time dies
And so shall I

110

CUTICLES

The sight of your gives me chills
Like a cold shower
But am I alone beneath your cascade?
The thought of you swallows my hope
Like the apocalypse
But is there ever a chance of us
Holding hands
And licking each other's names?
I once thought so, and then I tumbled
Like an avalanche
But can you be patient for me
To shed all the bad I picked up en route?
There's no simile for what I'd give
To be with you

111

Chapter End

I saw the answer in the fire
Mine mine mine my soul is the question
An expectation of miles and leagues
I will find it, the embers are pain
But I am the center of misery
And the thunder does not reign
Except for when I hold my voice inside
And I am done with this silence
It will be in my hand soon enough
But not without first trespassing
The boundaries of my own fire

112

THE COLOR CHAOS OF BEAUTY

Before the recent time of orange
Skies
A picture floated down to my face,
Happiness
Inside of my questions were asked of
Sanity
Now that the sun's down, wicked
Inquisition
Beckons an answer from me or I'll fall
Down
But at this rate I'd rather choose the
Chaos
Where beautiful things swallow
Indecision
My future turns bright at this new
Discovery

113

DON'T THINK ABOUT…HER

Don't think about her even the slightest
Before your head hits the pillow or turn the light off
Because she'll invade and violate your dreams
With memories that never existed
She'll make you feel the way you deserve to
She'll give you smiles and laughter
But don't think about her before your light goes off
Because she doesn't deserve that recognition
She doesn't deserve your happiness
And she'll never deserve you
So don't think about her the slightest

114

FALLEN UP

I have fallen
But it doesn’t mean
We can’t be fixed
I lie in pieces
Across your feet
Never again to taste your peace
Except for when I bleed

We have broken
But I can still feel you seep
Thrown into the mix
This is not our end
We can make amends
But only once you weep

115

THUNDERMIND

Thundermind
Will you find me when I am asleep?
I want you to kill my nightmares
Create new ones if it pleases you
I have a feeling that you mean well
Even when your fingertips ice me
Thundermind
I don’t need to see you to know
Because the fissures inside are real
We’ve been hunting you perpetually
Surely we’ll never triumph, it’s ok
I want only you to seize us whole
Thundermind

116

IMPACT

Another night in your sun
I'm beginning to think there's no end
I love times like these
As dumbfounding as they are
It's the feeling that has impacted
And its tremors are what matter
You are my lover and an eternal friend
I relish every light in your shadow
So long as you're happy to have me
I can taste it when you cry
We are all prone to despair
It's how you perceive your collapse
And my eye is forever open

117

Clean Slate or Deep Fate

Turn right back around
And kiss the snake on the lips
Taste the same venom bled free
Now you're back where it began

I've seen it all before
The blood's been mine, and
The pain's been inside
But I'll fall by the spear
Sooner than the dagger

You just want your life back
In the pocket where you keep love
One of these days it'll find an owner
But until then, it's just you
And you're worth fighting for

118

Absorption

I’m dripping onto your canvas
Your skin, it’s off the floor
The ceiling, it takes your hair
I’m flying in your airspace
And I’ll land on your rosy lips
You can seep into my eyes
I’ll lick fire across your tongue

119

THE LITTLE BIG THING(S)

I live for the little things.

A smile, a laugh, a tear, a voice, a scream, a verse, a breakdown, a riff, a chord, a kiss, a cuddle, an orgasm, a shiver, a moan, a photograph, a thought.

The little things, I live for these.

An idea, a dream, an hour of sleep, a ringtone, a video game win, an exclamation, a gunshot at the range, a tattoo, a random glance with a stranger, a movie scene, the flip of her hair, her grace, her clumsiness, her stride, her slow blink.

I live for the little things, such as these.
But I'll only die for the big thing.
I don't feel that I need to elaborate on that one.

120

ABANDON NOTHING

A dune of time
A volcano of memories
We can save the clouds
But not the tragedies
My mind afloat
My heart awaiting you
We can save the earth
But not the truth

121

THE PATH ALIVE

I remember when they devoured memories
And we ignored our greatest feelings
I remember when they dug our tunnels
And we forgot how to bleed
I remember when they buried our hearts
And all we did was stay on our knees
I remember when they once were ourselves
And we couldn’t tell the difference

122

Love of a Different Shade

Tear into the black, seep into the white
Prowling for a place only we can find
I want to procure your very own light
But all I have now are the words of mine
Patience is a virtue but it's a thin line
I know why your energy always shines
So it's understood, let us travel time
All I want is to hold you for one night

123

MEMORIES BEST KEPT BURIED

Sometimes I can't help but ponder
My mind adrift like gray skies
If your conscience would be better
When the light in me just dies

Melting away as I feel that I am
Are you getting what you want?
Smiling with you was just a sham
My naïveté was yours to flaunt

Maybe in the future I can fade
Without thinking of your eyes
I'll just sing asleep and dissipate
Forgetting all of your lovely lies

124

RAPTOR NINE

(a 9-part free verse short story, circa 12.2013)

Dawn broke the horizon
Like a brick through stained glass
The Skyline GTR glimmered
Pearlescent blue and hungry
The two men finalized their deal
Just as the clouds above them
Dispersed beneath the sun
There was a wave of thunder
As an obsidian Boss 429 crested
The black tongue hill
Far ahead of them, all eyes peeled
Hearts in throats

Paranoia settled like a thick haze
As the Mustang rolled to a stop
Just opposite the Skyline
With the same thing, but yellower
Creating a picturesque backdrop
The men stood as stone
With cold expressions
And lips sealed shut
The Mustang's driver exited
Violet hair in ropy strands

Sleeves of discolored ink
And the look of devils in her eye
But she was here to do good
Her passenger would argue
For he was the lenient one
And her voice stung like bees

They strode toward the men
Ambling like thorny tumbleweeds
One of the men by the Skyline
Ogled the vivid-haired woman
Who reached to the tail of her jeans
Nearly as black as the Mustang
Her passenger wore one expression
It was distaste, but approval
His mask was a full beard
But his eyes reached past walls
And when the woman drew
He did, too, joining her side
To unleash a hell only they knew

Their eyes traced movements
Fluent like the Grand Rapids
But the men by the Skyline
Saw them far more molassic
The woman's hair tidal waved about
As she spun around with gun out
And the man's rigid gaze remained
Even as he belted out
Round after round, slug after slug
Into one of their chests
Great crimson plumes and shouting
He finished quick, holstered
But she was a feral albino panther
And she wouldn't have ended it
Quickly even if she tried

There was a bath of blood in the air
And by the time she concealed

Her Beretta by the tag of her jeans
The Skyline GTR's blue finish
Was splattered and ruined
She thought it looked pretty, though
Meanwhile her passenger shook his head
But there was no shattering truth
For he loved her like acid rain
And she him, no differently
But this was business, well sort of
So they searched the car
And returned to the Boss 429
This time Raptor behind the wheel
And Nine extended in the backseat
Lying on a bed of dead presidents

'Can I do the honors,' she asked
A cobra uncoiling behind him
He sighed, impossible not to smile
And handed the grenade to her
As the Mustang cruised past
She cackled and pelted it at the car
In Raptor's rearview the Skyline
Melted into the skyline with fire
It was his alias for simpler reasons
He had an ophidian nose and
Was surprisingly nimble for his size
So the name stuck, and he stuck to it
Because he knew nothing better
But being a raptor meant
Being a team player, too

He piloted the Mustang as fast as
Her thoughts swarmed her head
She smiled to herself as if in secret
Counting the green stacks beneath her
She could count forever behind her eyes
But her name was Nine for one reason
She has nine fingers, the tenth
Gone after having it severed

During a quarrel with less civilized folk
A statement in itself she laughs to
He had flipped her the bird
So she proceeded to bite it off
He had his goons remove hers in return
But she hasn't let that cripple her spirit

Midday washed in with a cape of clouds
It casted its pall over smaller towns
For Raptor and Nine, they were immune
First reason was obvious, they carried their own
The shadows that flowed with them
Were sleek, apt, feral
They were disconnected silhouettes
And this world just didn't know
What to do with suck creatures
'How much?' Raptor asked
'Ask me in 10 minutes,' Nine muttered
Raptor pushed the Boss over a black hill
And a storm of trouble hit them

Volleys of gunfire erupted on both sides
The road for eighty feet became chaos
An unadulterated form of violent disorder
The Mustang careened in its middle
Sides peppering with bullet holes
Raptor floored it but Nine didn't hit the floor
Yelling incoherently she fired out both windows
Recoil rattling her bones
Smoke glassing her eyes
They had been waiting for them
This was their last score, but
If they went down, they'd use their own shovels
And bring their own roses