

The Metal Sunset
of Tomorrow's Ascending Dissension

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You have _____ of 100.

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Poem that begins & ends with a line from Kevin Davies

Meditating atop broken tractor parts
fresh from the oven of museumized spines

or cultivating beneath the notional marketplace
straight from the prototype of my transcendent nosejob

I feasted on easier than work
my dysfunction being my strength

my nadir being my frame
because it's never always sometime soon

at the silver-plated museum of coercion
but that doesn't count for shit

Poem that begins & ends with a line from David Buuck

Statistics accumulate on a scale of one to one.
Togetherness thrumming and making me feel.

Savage azalea & the prickly pear
where colors blend in blood & hue.

Love is something we need to increase.
Love is something we need to increase.

Love is something we need to increase.
Soldiering toward the true war.

A kaleidoscope of chaos. A friend you can trust.
Puckered budgets of chapbook'd care.

Poem that begins & ends with a line from Heather Fuller

when superior pejorative and quotient internment
demonstrated the distinction between apples &

'apples' then *we've met our contractual obligation*
but for the unfreedom to summarily declare performance

indicators indicating disaster but otherwise fine thanks
for beer wine rum cigarettes & individualism neo-immutable

for modal as modelman & this time it's history versus everyone
in a one-fall fifteen-minute time limit pay-per-view match & for dessert

touchdown trademark touchdown mini-van touchdown freedom as
where you are determines the Jesus you will see.

Poem that begins & ends with a line from Mark Wallace

my relationship with you and the French revolution
more like the future attraction of *le dénouement de la pantouflege*

217 years later, however, & when the center becomes the
whole the whole the center clicking for the ricket finger on

the credit card dime bag. First Union National Bank:
it felt more like translation the more & more I

put the monograph on the future sound
of bio-engineered smell back on your

tabledance independence market cloth because
we're here to preserve democracy, not to practice it.

Poem that begins & ends with a line from Bob Perelman

Vocabulary enables forethought to end
the death of an island's thin skin of soil

belladonna hoodwink the tenor of my heretofore
faulted urge to merge & celebritized rivals

waiting for the cardboard stonewall supply creates
demand: the triumph of my vendible modicum

death fractures death fractures shades of life
litany of more-for-less the tenor of a peddler's wares

no kickbacks or workaday verdicts
leaning over each death edge complete

Poem that begins & ends with a line from Rodrigo Toscano

archivists of scarcity were amending mutuality
for alchemists of dereliction working friction

for sunnyday. a surplus of Monday morning
in my hitherto axial shinshelter. the goods

life. the breadline. destruction's creation &
creation's destruction. because definitive asphyxia &

static knife-edge moments were the very powerful drug
company's non-anomalous phenomena extracting surplus

referents for free trade union fossil brothel for my
escaped icons dashing through the volume of it all

Poem that begins & ends with a line from Lisa Robertson

power is a pink prosthesis hidden in the forest
of carnivorous freedom above the glass-ceilinged archive

of conflictive retread & anomalous phenomenon
near the scission of rhythm & platinum laxity

ode to ripcord caveat of trailer valence
ode to unruly saxophone poverty plant

power is a pink contractual obligation
stashed in a shape-shifting caveat obligingly

askance & superlative, consummate & crude
strewn with the petals of aptly faded hope

Poem that begins & ends with a line from Myung Mi Kim

Never certain jonquils are the yellow hand
the scintillating aimlessness of the dominant,

she said. what you say can & will be used
& clothed as closure as socialized denial for

hummingbird architect *sequestered and*
communicative. Senegal moves on. injured

constable. *Exchange defies observation*.
history brushed prickly. blond dealignment.

Seacliff. Merchant. Scenting memory with the vintage.
Heat the gaping ground constraints. Turbulence. Ridicule.

Poem that begins & ends with a line from CA Conrad

the can calls out for the can
operation provide comfort

setpiece martyrology of salient amity radius
value-pack of merit pay for ethics of deception

back in the saddled-with again
culturally neutral or neutrally cultural?

stop-gap drive-by of morphine unfixed
coin incarnate the ferocity with which

must we endure such freedom? as
a roof allows a house underneath

Poem that begins & ends with a line from Rod Smith

the actual flakes of makeshift geniality
before the collapsed ice shelf of goodbye

because withered freight of sugar-free rub-a-dub mathematic
after the smattered traction of spectacle will insist you smoke

your radical theory from here on out of the hardwired
humdrum closet and into the People's Republic of

Chomsky feeling all lacquered & rapturous & I know nothing
will ever be the same except for the resistance to the present

of the present divided by familiar flap of flag at fifty-five
times defunct comeuppance askew in the cradle

Poem that begins & ends with a line from P. Inman

what. if. Poulantzas. had. been.
wait. just. a. minmin. minute. there.

mister. Milibands. are. people. too. [violets].
for. straw. man. of. Moor. straw. man. of.

Mao. straw. man. of. but. theythey. know. your. hat. &.
know. your. freedom. lackey. figment. defray. galore.

switchblade. cold. but. switchblade. still. &. how.
it's. dressed. only. matters. &. matters. only. because. it.

matters. right. left. &. center. of. [its]. course. in.
the. odd. farmland. your. fingers. will. make.

Poem that begins & ends with a line from Elizabeth Robinson

noise and violence Scooping up the hidden hand
protection racket. but skeet shot rabble diction.

but shorts located with ripple voltage check.
but in the capitol rotunda. but negligible eligibility.

but mannered encodations. but for white picket
cross staked into the soil 2.63 miles from our house.

doubt bleeding into culled artifice of fractured recollection.
gossip shopping with civil panopticon society panopticon.

noise and violence. noise and violence.
Nothing protects so well as this porousness.

Poem that begins & ends with a line from Mel Nichols

words floating as the camera fragments time
into flat parcels of red & black, red & black

the negative an inverse of what we knew then
tonight being commensurable tonight being now

question question answer dodge the metal
sunset of tomorrow's ascending dissension

forgive me ribaldry & the *stability of error*
for people are walking from here to there

I said I was sorry & it wasn't enough
each word a planet spinning transits of blue

Poem that begins & ends with a line from Dorothy Trujillo Lusk

All hail the crushed amber groin
where some labor is waged always already

where flagrant generosity of apexed Molotov
plagued by undulatory Technicolor verticality

is semi-permissive recidivism & the lore of sanatoria
a sharp-dip consignment of deluxe banality

waterborne dry run of collective responsibility
collecting the tuition of dehousing men

imponderably wrong versus wrongful [again]
pushing this tiny knife through

Poem that begins & ends with a line from CE Putnam

6,000 strong filled up with drug-crazed gun harvests
induced a factory outlet of careful love in the criminal

syndicate's amplified plot emplotted [patent pending]
punctuate periodic layoff [patent pending] &

food for naught care naught for food
strychnine bovine gumming my cud

tantamount to akimbo logic [patent pending] thanks
to the *right honourable gentleman* [patent pending]

on the emergency room gun detector before
I extended my hand with the meat cupped in it

Poem that begins & ends with a line from Kevin Varrone

the tendency to be instruments of grief
on my mind that morning at the bus stop

in a word alone beneath a thin sheaf
of consent's unfreedom to judge the

judge-not-before-you-judge-yourself she said
crisis in a blue sweater & had her way with it

as pennies insult the sensibilities in these parts
life expentancy less than it once was for

bedrocked & doublebunked Rosie the Riveted
so as to speak and not not speak of it

Poem that begins & ends with a line from Harryette Mullen

Quantum mechanics fixed my karma wagon
but not my high-tech metallic crapshoot

indexed under smooth-lipped extortion. the parity
of scarcity & the scarcity of parity. the feedbag

as muzzle as the gentle sway of
glitter-bingeing on the scent of random.

[& two-thirds of what was said
was said to avoid a lawsuit.] so insert

the pleasant metal disconnect into the buckle:
contraband leader scattering scat sporadically.

Poem that begins & ends with a line from Carol Mirakove

knifepainter is money like the negligible
fledgling refereed speech gluten obfuscation

iteration disabused of crux mettle & bar code the
heirlooms the semi-automatic crowd pleaser the

remarkable that went unremarked
in certain uncertain situations for

public opinion may not be completely irrelevant
when bottled childproofed & bar-coded perhaps

lumpensculptor is money like the maniacal
& the bigger we get the dumber we get

Poem that begins & ends with a line from Laura Elrick

demand is not need, local is not local
curbside is not curbside, windows not windows

go-go booted flicker dance track of inequity
hook fact hook fact hook

because the space race gave us
Teflon because business confidence

because Bolivian tin because of a sudden
glut of odd little binomials dancing at the

dancehall's extremely cirrhosis debt vagabonding in the
minimum adjacent female intensive confinement center

Poem that begins & ends with a line from Judith Goldman

consider disadvantage as a genre
then consider disadvantage as patent

protection for heretofore [structural]
undetected [structural] fear & loathing

in Lake Fill-in-the-Blank Estates creates
creates Estates *the threshing floor* built on

the patois of fossils, the contravention of international
law, the positive attitude that makes me so pleasant.

I may not like magniloquence as a genre but
I like icons & the toxic halos of figureheads

Poem that begins & ends with a line from Robert Fitterman

the burden of the clarity bell
ringing over-the-counter dispossession

disciplined audacity grafted onto
heretofore hideous rigorously furthermore

not fallacies of misplaced abstractions but
odd-jobbing as unintended though predictable

casino wardrobe syndrome profitability
& therefore we were unable to rest corroborative

wherewithal saying a little about a lot at
the banquet of missed intentions

Poem that begins & ends with a line from K. Silem Mohammad

collateral poaching front: plea-bargained rifle bark
meandering racecar trump: bumper crop traffic jam

there must be something wrong with the water
table the brand-new president of the United

Axiology of Nested Reverence: there there sweetheart
the perfectly weighted hospital ball for the troposphere

won't bother your noisy carpet or your
statistically significant delicate exorcism

until the expensive iconoclast frowned heartily
never arriving in Salem by bookmobile

Poem that begins & ends with a line from Jen Hofer

the automat dream in history undecorated
the *buena onda* chortle slit of Oaxacan machete grammar

the seemingly basically obviously of property rhythm trim whim
the clinically finished full-moon justice triage foreseeably

fear not the pixilated NAFTA rapture for the masses
of masses of human appallingly regrettably reprinted for

but fear faded storefront's *indignant preponderance*
of flowerbed of dead & Remedios Varo's thin-legged

vampires grooming squirrelchickens in the
generous vengeance development verandah

Poem that begins & ends with a line from Kaia Sand

my sweet rogue nation close-lipped promise kiss me this way
for quickened diction foibles make for more desert green

a little bit too much wildlife for you today. because obedience
means persuasion & persuasion means power & power

means labor & labor means soil & soil means yams
& yams means Toussaint L'Ouverture, a two-for-one doggy-dog,

double-dealt crypt-ripper of *many moneyed wink wink*
and all dredging done. the thoroughgoing brickclipped the

unquestionably guile the military trademark the purified glee.
united nations be damned; we need a new sofa.

Poem that begins & ends with a line from Buck Downs

alienated but not insulated
grief riding spirals of wire

in my mind etc. etc. & she said
I should be more cheerful

oh chevron how I adore thee
there how's that for adherence

to over under between & toward
the lord of my love-hate fondle-smother

but in the end that was no petting zoo
& this is not a work of quotation

Poem that begins & ends with a line from Joan Retallack

the sudden Technicolor salute
guiding my finger-trembling

showcase showdown unexceptionably clicking
toward glut of psychosis tropes sliding from

the heretofore the there & there only
guns and hearts rhyme perfectly in

Spanish channel two-hour special on
much-publicized communal norms

where empty shelves are on special as
myth's urgent isosceles smile

Poem that begins & ends with a line from Bruce Andrews

Vestiges of illusionism do not overpower but assume
they do & assume you're stuck in an anapest

of a state in a regularly scheduled warhorse's figure
eight peso crisis. the geography of accumulation.

an uneventful childhood. Disney tattoos. blazer-clad
security personnel. trustafarian dissent query: amass amass &

amass. chiclets & chatchkas. Operation Mongoose. *Machinegun
bit relaxer*. the red thread of glanced passage where jackboot means

rubber dollar suburbanite rendez-vous & where
transparent astral spine passes for knowledge

Poem that begins & ends with a line from Deirdre Kovac

hellbent for latter dangled lynching sash
alleviate the boomslump with tissue of myth

yet another normal crisis situation
too much redundancy to reiterate once again

wiretapped entrapment for improv fodder
sometimes more forceful methods are proposed

the syntax of standard-issue blotter traction
nevertheless a surrogate convenient however

stockade broker. ferriswheeling. Clifford Odets. stave.
cotton candy. Sandinista. linen leaflets. facts.