

# **SIMPLE LOGIC**

**BY**

**TOBY LURIE**

## PREFACE

I am in the process of house-cleaning, a daunting task considering the extent of my poetry accumulated over a period of almost forty years. It took this move to Fort Bragg, a small, sleepy and seductive village located on the lost coast of northern California to make this happen. No longer held in the grip of my beloved San Francisco, I can now focus my attention on this project. Namely, disposing of that which is an embarrassment, improving on that which is border-line and utilizing that which is a matter of some pride. I am then taking what remains and formatting it into books of poetry which may at some future time fall into the hands of an unsuspecting publisher.

This introduction would do for any of my current books as the project is the same and my method of writing unchanged: to strengthen the bonding between Spoken-Language and Music, for one cannot exist without the other. The Spoken-Word as I see it contains all the elements of music: rhythm, tempo, pitch and dynamics, but in a more abstract and subtle form. Counterpoint is also evident in my multiple-voiced poems, as is harmony, resulting from the vertical elements arising from unisons and laminations. Even form, as it exists in music, is an element in Spoken-Music which consists, to a great degree, of Word-Scales, a method of composing poetry which is very similar in concept to the way a music composition is created from music scales.

For the curious of mind one will find music forms including: fugues, crab-fugues, and rondos present in these compositions. I urge you to read these poems aloud to fully appreciate and understand them. Dashes indicate silence and parentheses indicate a theme moving in reverse or borrowed from another voice.

Toby Lurie, 12/16/04

## SIMPLE LOGIC

1 As I sit silently in my world gazed upon  
2 **I experience what I experience my experience**

1 by you in your world wondering - - - - if - - - - the whole  
2 **of myself my experience of you**

1 of the parts is my world or your world  
2 **my experience of all that exists through my body**

1 or our world - - - - I realize that my world contains my world  
2 **my mind - - - - my heart**

1 your world and our world - - - And your world  
2 **and all other forms of reception available to me**

1 contains your world my world and - - -  
2 **real or imagined** **When I experience** **most purely**

1 our world and our world not yours and mine  
2 **then I become** **the experience** **and that**

1 contains my world your world  
2 **is as complete** **as any experience can be - - - - -** **I experience**

1 and our world But my world  
2 **what I experience - - - - -**  
3 Are we not what we seem

1 I realize my world contains  
2 **My experience** **of myself** **my experience**  
3 to be are we not

1 my world containing your world our world  
2 **of you - - - - -** **my experience**  
3 what we are or are we

1 and my world your world containing  
2 **of all that exists - - - - -**  
3 what we are - - - not are we

1 my world our world and your world  
2 **through my body**  
3 what we are we are we are what?

1 and our world containing our world your world  
2 **my mind my heart**  
3 we are not we are

1 and my world and I - - - - -  
2 **and all other forms**  
3 we are what we are not - - - - - we are not

1 I - - - - I realize that you that you realize  
 2 **of reception** available to me  
 3 what we seem we are not

1 that your world contains your world contains  
 2 **real - - - - or imagined**  
 3 we are we are

1 your world containing my world our world and  
 2 **when I experience** most purely  
 3 we are - - - -

1 your world - - - - my world  
 2 **then I become** the experience and that is  
 3 we are to be not what we are

1 containing your world our world and  
 2 **as complete**  
 3 what we are - - - - what we are not to be

1 my world and our world containing  
2 **as any experience can be I experience**  
3 what we are

1 our world - - - my world - - - and your world  
2 **what I experience my experience of myself**  
3 we are not what we are not

1 and we - - - you and I - - - you and I - - -  
2 **my experience of you**  
3 we are not what not what

1 we realize - - - we realize - - - we realize  
2  
3 not what we are we are not what we are not - - - - -

1 we realize  
2 **My experience of all that exists through my body**  
3 we are not what we are

1  
2 **my mind my heart that our world**  
3 not what we seem we are and all other forms of reception

1 contains My world containing your world - - -  
2 **available to me - - - - -**  
3 what we are to be

1 my world and our world  
2 **real or imagined - - - - - when I experience**  
3 what we are we are not what we were

1 Your world containing my world  
2 **most purely then I become**  
3 we are we are what we are not

1 your world and our world  
2 **the experience and this is**  
3 what we seem - - - - - we are not what



1 and our world containing our world - - - - -  
2 **as complete**  
3 what? - - - - - what we are we are

1 my world All of this  
2 **as any experience** **I experience - - - - -**  
3 what we are we are what we are

1 All of this I realize  
2 **my experience of myself - - - - -** **my experience**  
3 to be not what we are

1 All of this I realize as I sit as I sit silently - - - - -  
2 **of you - - - - -** **my experience**  
3 are we not

1 as I sit silently - - - - - silently  
2 **through my body** **my mind**  
3 are we not what we are we are



1 gazing at you - - - - -  
2 **is as complete** - - - - - **as any experience** - - - - -  
3 we are - - - - -

1 gazing at me - - - - - gazing at you - - - - -  
2 **can be** - - - - -  
3 we are - - - - -

1 gazing at me - - - - -  
2 **can be** - - - - -  
3 we are - - - - - we are...

**Rhodes, Greece**  
**5/12/84 (my birthday twenty years ago)**

### THREE THEMES

1 You know who you are  
2 **She is pregnant** with child  
3 Seen through the son of the son - - - -

1 and you you the she of she - -  
2 **she is pregnant** with grief **she is pregnant**  
3 of the man this son

1 and the he of he  
2 **with love** and she with God  
3 that man seen through this son the son

1 is you - - - - you have always known  
2 **is pregnant** **He is pregnant - - - -**  
3 of that man father you have always known

1 who you were  
2 ----- (you have always known) ----- with her She is pregnant  
3 of the father

1 and when you entered and where  
2 with him he is pregnant -----  
3 of this man that man

1 you knew ----- you have always known -----  
2 with concern  
3 Seen through that man you have always known -----

1 because you know  
2 always known she is pregnant with doubt  
3 the son of the father

1 because you knew ----- Because you know  
2 And I am pregnant with myself  
3 of the son

1 you knew and where and when  
2 **with child with grief with love**  
3 of that man the father

1 you entered who you were  
2 **with God concern and doubt - - - - -**  
3 of the father of this man

1 you always have known of she is you  
2 **you always have known - - - - - pregnant with all those souls**  
3 you always have known of the father

1 and the he the she of she - - - - -  
2 **spoken above full of life Spoken above**  
3 the father of that man

1 you (you  
2 **with all those souls (with all those souls**  
3 of the son of the father (of the son

1                                    the she of she)                                    and you  
**2 spoken above)**                                    **Pregnant**                                    **and I**  
3                                    of that man) - - - - -                                    the son

1                                    who you are - - - - -                                    You know  
**2 am pregnant**                                    **with doubt**  
3                                    through that man                                    seen

1                                    who you are                                    and you  
**2 She is pregnant**                                    **(You know**                                    **who you are - - - - -**  
3                                    that man                                    (You know

1 you - - - - -                                    the she of she                                    and the he                                    of he  
**2 and you**                                    **you**  
3                                    who you are - - - - -                                    and you                                    you

1                    is you                                    you have  
**2 of she**                                    **and the he of he**                                    **is you - - - - -**  
3                    the she of she                                    of he is you - - - - -

1 always known who you were and when you entered  
2 **you have always known** who you were  
3 you have always known

1 and where you knew because  
2 **and when you entered** and where  
3 who you were and when you entered

1 you know - - - - -  
2 **you knew** - - - - - because you know  
3 and where - - - - - you knew

1 because you knew - - - - - because you know  
2 **because you knew)** - - - - - with concern  
3 because you know

1 you knew and where  
2 **he is pregnant** with him  
3 because you knew) - - - - - of this man - - - - -



1 and when you entered who you were  
 2 **she is pregnant** ----- with her **he is pregnant** -----  
 3 father of the father of that man

1 you have always known is you  
 2 **you have always known** is pregnant and she  
 3 you have always known - - - - the son seen through this son

1 of she and the he of she  
 2 **with God** with love **she is pregnant**  
 3 that man this son of the man

1 you the she and you  
 2 **with grief** she pregnant with child  
 3 of the son through the son

1 who you are you know - - - -  
 2 **she is pregnant** **she is pregnant**  
 3 seen - - - - seen through



1 the son of that man father of the father  
 2 **with her she is pregnant with him he**  
 3 father of the father

1 father of the father  
 2 **is pregnant with concern**  
 3 of this man that man seen through that man

1 of this man that man seen through than man  
 2 **she is pregnant with doubt**  
 3 the son of the father

1 the son of the father of the son - - - - -  
 2  
 3 of the son - - - - - of that man the father - - - - -

1 of that man the father  
 2 **And I am pregnant with myself**  
 3 of the father of this man - - - - -

1 of the father of this man - - - - - you know  
2 with child with grief - - - - - with love - - - - -  
3

1 who you are and you - - - - - you - - - - -  
2 with God - - - - - concern and doubt - - - - - pregnant  
3

1 the she of she and the he of he - - - - - is you  
2 pregnant with all those souls spoken above  
3

1 you have always known - - - - -  
2 full with life - - - - - always known.  
3 You know who you are - - - - - you have always known - - - - -

**5/7/88**

## MEETING

1 You were standing in the driveway a sad smile I had insisted  
2 **It is all illusion everything**

1 on seeing you it was too abrupt and unnecessary  
2 **but I did not wish to lose the reality of it**

1 it is all illusion everything  
2 **----- How does one hold on to a moment? by letting go -----**

1 but I did not wish to lose the reality of it We held casually  
2 **it is all illusion everything -----**

1 we went inside ----- we held deeply  
2 **but I did not wish to lose the reality of it -----**



1 I suggested a room in the woods you would not have it - - -  
2 **everything**  
3 I had insisted on seeing you

1 But it is all illusion  
2 **and I did not wish to lose the reality of it - - - - -**  
3 It was all too abrupt and unnecessary

1 everything - - - - -  
2 **How does one hold to a moment? - - - - -**  
3 It is all illusion - - - - - everything

1 and I did not wish to lose the reality of it  
2 **by letting go - - - - -**  
3 and I did not wish to lose the reality of it

1 We walked the country roads admiring the cottages  
2 **It is all illusion**  
3 We held casually

1 which one would be ours  
2 **It is all illusion** **everything**  
3 we went inside we held deeply - - -

1 We passed a wedding party it is all  
2 **and I did not wish to lose**  
3 laughter tears in balance

1 - - - it is all illusion we cried  
2 **the reality of it - - - -** **How does one hold**  
3 it is all illusion everything

1 drove back to Santa Cruz for tea  
2 **to a moment?** **by letting go**  
3 We drove to Santa Cruz

1 I bought you a book  
2 **It is all illusion - - - -**  
3 We were happy we shared a turkey sandwich



1 Other Voices

Other Rooms

2 **everything**

**and I did not want to lose**

3 we had a glass of wine

1 What did that mean

2 **the reality of it** **How does one**

3 drove into the redwoods - - - We shared a bottle of beer

1 We drove to Capitola - - - a few words

2 **hold to a moment?** **by letting go**

3 in Eidelweiss

1 with your mother it is all illusion everything - - - -

2 **went to dinner**

3 I suggested a room in the woods - - - it is all illusion everything - - - -

1 Red snapper - - shared clam-chowder - -

2 **and I did not wish to lose**

3 you would not have it

1 shared and Chablis  
2 **the reality of it**  
3 but it is all illusion is all illusion everything - - - -

1 Time is growing short time is growing short and I did not want to lose  
2 **How does one hold to a moment?**  
3 and I did not want to lose the reality of it

1 the reality of it Out into the soft darkness  
2 **by letting go - - - -**  
3 We walked the country roads

1 pausing at the river kissing away our tears  
2  
3 admiring the cottages which one would be ours

1 the miracle of now how does one hold  
2 **It is all illusion**  
3 we passed a wedding party

1 to a moment? - - - - by letting go  
2 **everything** and I did not want to lose  
3 It is all illusion

1 and I did not want to lose the reality of it I drove you home  
2 **the reality of it**  
3 and I did not want to lose the reality of it - - - -

1 we held and left you  
2  
3 back to Santa Cruz for tea I bought you a book Other Voices

1 standing in the driveway  
2 **How does one hold to a moment?**  
3 Other Rooms how does one?

1 a sad smile it is all illusion - - - -  
2 **by letting go** **everything**  
3 What does that mean? - - - - it is all illusion - - - -

1 but I did not want to lose the reality of it

2

**the reality of it - - - - -**

3

but I did not want to lose the reality of it

1 how does one hold to a moment? - - - - -

letting go

2

**by letting go - - - - -**

3 how does one hold to a moment? - - - - -

letting go

1

all illusion...

2

**- - - - - but - - - - - it is all illusion - - - - -**

3

all illusion...

## AN OUTPOURING

1 And it rained                      and it rained                      in London                      drenching  
2                      **And it rained**                      **and it rained**                      **and it rained**

1 a summer madness - - - - -                      in Surrey                      flooding manicured mansions  
2                      **and it rained**                      **it rained**

1                      in South Wales                      in Bath                      an appropriate place for rain  
2 **and it rained**                      **and it rained**                      **raining**

1                      the Romans would have loved it                      but we are only Americans  
2 **raining**                      **in the rain**                      **in the rain**

1 - - - - - and across South Wales                      into and out of Swansea                      approaching  
2                      **it rained**                      **and it rained**

1 Fishguard across the St. George Channel to Ireland  
2 **in the rain** **in the rain** **raining still**

1 riding with a Catholic priest passing Waterford  
2 **through the rain - - - -** **well named**

1 and Tipperary across Ireland singing the old songs  
2 **where it spotted** **and rained** **singing**

1 and talking politics and religion and getting nowhere  
2 **in the rain** **in the rain** **in the rain**

1 all the way to Limerick and it rained where we  
2 **while it rained** **in the rain - - - -** **and it rained**

1 almost used our tent so we slept inside Not yet  
2 **but it rained** **while it rained - - - -**

1                    had we seen                    the sun rise                    or set                    or felt a star  
2 **raining still**                    **in the rain**                    **in the rain**                    **in the rain**

1                    and it rained - - - - -                    This might have been a poem  
2 **for it rained**                    **and it rained - - - - -**

1                    about a mountain that held our bodies                    or a soft lake  
2 **and it rained**                    **raining**                    **and it rained**                    **but it rained**

1 opening to our touch                    and we saw Ireland                    from moving cars  
2                    **but it rained**                    **in the rain**

1                    from the windows of cottages                    and hotels  
2 **while it rained**                    **while it rained**                    **and it rained**

1 yearning for the touch                    of summer soil                    and it rained  
2                    **while it rained**                    **but it rained**

1 past the Lakes of Killarney with a brief spot of sun  
2 **and it rained** in the rain through the rain

1 collapsing giving way past the Rings of Kerry  
2 through the rain to the rain - - - - in the rain

1 with the sun a brief hope - - - - of clearing skies  
2 through the rain but it rained but instead

1 it rained dampness in our bodies This might have been  
2 **and it rained** from the rain - - - -

1 a summer poem it's not a sad one but it might have been  
2 **and it rained** but it rained raining

1 a dry summer poem It is summer you know but it rained  
2 **raining** but it rained - - - - raining



1 all the way from western to eastern Ireland through Adair  
2 **and it rained it rained it rained**

1 with its thatched roofed cottages throughout the poor country of Ireland  
2 **it rained it rained**

1 with its trusting souls giving of themselves which was all  
2 **it rained it rained in the rain**

1 they owned past Limerick again medieval castles  
2 **in the rain in the rain still raining**

1 and fortresses sprouting from the soil proudly  
2 **in the rain the damp soil in the steady rain**

1 roses everywhere roses drooping and smiling roses  
2 **still falling in the rain in the rain - - - -**

1 past aged men peddling or pushing aged bicycles  
2 **in the rain in the rain in the falling rain**

1 and past middle-aged women huddled together or pitching hay  
2 **in the rain in the rain**

1 or carrying a day's supply of groceries and young children  
2 **in the rain in the rain in the rain**

1 doing their thing the older children have departed this country  
2 **in the rain - - - - in the rain - - in the rain - - in the rain**

1 in search of an easier life - - - - in the rain in the rain  
2 **and it rained raining raining**

1 past rolling hills of green small farms separated by walls  
2 **in the rain beneath the rain**

1 of gray stone and into Dublin in search of  
2 **dripping rain in the unending rain in the rain**

1 authentic melodies finding instead poor imitations of loud American rock  
2 **in the rain in the rain**

1 while it rained while it rained  
2 **----- sitting in the rain by waterlogged stone buildings**

1 in the rain from the rain  
2 **rotting bales of hay dampness in our bodies thinking -----**

1 in the rain in the rain it can't be  
2 **this is summer? But it can't be unless we forget -----**

1 forget that it's raining not be bothered by the fact eternally  
2 **or at least that's it's raining**

1 raining by writing a summer poem with summer feelings  
2 **incessantly raining in the rain**

1 and stop looking or thinking about rain but it's  
2 **while it rains at the rain in the rain - - - - -**

1 not easy with an unused tent unused sleeping-bags  
2 **while rain falls while it rains because - -**

1 unused mattresses and stove  
2 **yes because it rains because it rains because it rains still**

1 as we depart Dublin across the Irish Sea ferrying to North Wales  
2 **in the rain in the rain**

1 holding hands as our umbrella falls apart  
2 **under rainy skies in the stubborn rain in the rain**

1 in Conwy most charming of villages where we could live  
2 **while it rains** **where it knows how to rain**

1 and might but won't as a ray of sun squeaks  
2 **in the rain** **in the rain** **in the rain** **in the rain**

1 between thunderheads where we settle for three days  
2 **in the rain in the rain** **in the rain**

1 in a quiet pension Anne with a cold but slight  
2 **while outside it rains - - - -** **from the rain**

1 and I do a laundry in a brief moment of sun  
2 **from the rain** **believe it** **between the rains - - - -**

1 Now we explore Conwy its winding cobblestone streets  
2 **between rains** **cobblestone streets**

1 ancient stone walls surrounding it for centuries  
2 **ancient stone walls surrounding it for centuries**

1 quaint cottages neatly tucked boats at rest in the bay  
2 **in the rain and green waving foothills surrounding it**

1 and in the early rain of an early morning  
2 **and in the early rain of an early morning picked up by a officer**

1 heading toward York in the rain in the rain  
2 **in the R.A.F. in the rain past Chester another**

1 in the rain and it rained and it rained  
2 **walled city avoiding Liverpool skirting Manchester**

1 in the damp darkness of afternoon in the rain  
2 **cheerful conversation as I promise sun**

1 and we say goodbye forgetting our new umbrella in his car  
2 **which fails us while it rains**

1 stopping off at Shipley visiting Hawath where the Bronte  
2 **as it rains in the rain while it rains**

1 sisters poured it out probably in the rain to myself thinking - - - -  
2 **in the rain thinking - - - -**

1 Is this a poem or just a catalogue  
2 **this is a kind of travel poem covering a part of our summer**

1 of places visited or quickly passed  
2 **while hitchhiking the United Kingdom in the rain**

1 which probably seems - - - -  
2 **which might seem which must seem dull to anyone - - - -**

1 boring as hell to anyone - - - but this morning I awakened  
2 **to everyone - - - - in the rain**

1 thinking - - - - this has got to end but it probably won't  
2 **in the rain this rain and this**

1 but it won't because it doesn't know how  
2 **senseless preoccupation with rain as it rains**

1 and the swallows left York five weeks early and they  
2 **as it rains in the rain while it rained**

1 know more about it than we do Sitting in our room  
2 **Oh yes they know they know - - - -**

1 in Edinburgh Scotland after passing  
2 **while it rains and rains in the rain between rains**



1 through the North York Moors Newcastle Upon Tyne  
2 **as the sky for a moment pauses**

1 Berwick Upon Tweed into Scotland  
2 **from the rain a brief spot of sun invading the hills**

1 in and out the North Sea rain and sun spots  
2 **of Scotland green hills flowing in and out**

1 in the rain which I need to forget  
2 **entering Firth of Forn once again it rains and what can we do about it - - - -**

1 approaching Edinburgh ancient center of culture  
2 **why not forget about it this rain this rain that falls**

1 castled old town stoned new town housing our bodies  
2 **and will continue to rain so long**

1 at the University of Edinburgh solemn seat of learning  
2 **as there is a sky to house the clouds**

1 or so I've heard as the sky rests  
2 **which produce the rain as the sun breaks through**

1 and Anne searches for rest and our plans  
2 **ever so briefly in the new morning rain**

1 for the countryside of Northern Scotland collapsing  
2 **just begun much needed not the rain**

1 as it rains - - - - - and rains - - - - -  
2 **in the rain and rains - - - - - and rains...**

summer 1978

## FOUND SERIAL POEM\*

1 The heavens are falling  
2 **There is hardly time to dream**  
3 It is something unknown - - - - -

1 There is only my tissue death is a wonderful discipline  
2 **shadows in ink**  
3 summer is chained like a blind man

1 we are hanging  
2 - - - - - **like a broken womb** when will it all end - - - - -  
3 the unborn morning

1 The heavens are falling  
2 **There is hardly time to dream**  
3 When will it all end - - - - -

1 over the minute

2 **Inside I am weeping for my generation**

3 of the world The true meaning of chastity is knowledge - - - - -

1 and it will return to dust

2 **the body is the tent of the soul - - - - -**

3 Your body was dust

1 The heavens are falling

2 **There is hardly time to dream**

3 It is something unknown - - - - -

1 The moon is shining on these pages

2 **The sky is lyrical with stars**

3 I am a gift that nobody

1 It is very curious

2 **The summer went down at last in a hush of bows - - -**

3 wants I am rusting

1 I sit over my books like an insect - - - - -  
2 **I am strangled**  
3 The ring of immense triviality

1 here is a stone age  
2 **by the days that pass through me**  
3 The immense agony of the rain The great anvil

1 of the spirit - - - - -  
2 **(When we hold the weeping person we are holding**  
3 (When we hold

1 (When we hold the weeping person  
2 **ourselves)**  
3 the weeping person we are holding

1 we are holding ourselves) - - - - -  
2 **I am strangled by the days**  
3 ourselves) The immense agony of the rain

1 Here is a stone age of the spirit

2 **that pass through me - - - - -**

3 The great anvil of the frost

1 Memory has many waiting rooms

2 **- - - - - It is so silent here - - - - -** at night

3 is pounding us

1 **- - - - -** The heavens are falling

2 **There is hardly time** to dream

3 It is something unknown

1 there is only my tissue - - - - -

2 **shadows - - - - -**

3 summer - - - - - is chained - - - - -

1 Death - - - - - is a wonderful

2 **like a broken womb**

3 like a blind man the unborn morning

1 discipline We are hanging  
2 **When** will this all end  
3 of the world The true meaning

1 over the minute I am an insert  
2 **Inside**  
3 of chastity is knowledge Your body was dust

1 and it will return to dust - - - - -  
2 **I am weeping** for my generation  
3 The earth weeps

1 large drops of blood The moon  
2 **Time is** a heartbeat the body  
3 I am a gift that nobody wants

1 is shining on these pages Here is a stone age  
2 **is the tent**  
3 I am rusting - - - - - the immense agony

1 of the spirit Memory  
2 **The sky is lyrical with stars**  
3 of the rain The great anvil of the frost

1 has many waiting rooms - - - - -  
2 **(Awakened this morning - - -**  
3 is pounding us - - - - -

1 (Awakened this morning freshest  
2 **freshest newest morning of all eternity)**  
3 (Awakened

1 newest morning of all eternity) - - - - -  
2  
3 this morning freshest newest morning of all eternity) - - - - -

1 The heavens are falling  
2 **I am strangled by the days that pass through me It is so silent**  
3 It is something unknown - - - - -



1 - - - - - Death is a wonderful discipline  
2 here at night  
3 Summer is chained like a blind man

1 The moon is shining on these pages  
2 **There is hardly time to dream**  
3 The moon is shining on these pages

1 It is very curious like a broken womb  
2 **it is very curious - - - - - The true meaning of chastity**  
3 It is very curious shadows in ink

1 when will it all end inside  
2 **your body was dust**  
3 is knowledge - - - - - the earth weeps

1 I am weeping that nobody wants - - - - - time  
2 **I am a gift** time - -  
3 for my generation time - -

1 is a heartbeat - - - - Memory has many waiting rooms  
2 **is a heartbeat** **The great anvil of the frost is pounding us**  
3 is a heartbeat I was born dead

1 The sky is lyrical with stars Summer went down  
2 **The sky is lyrical with stars**  
3 The sky is lyrical with stars - - - -

1 in a hush of bows (When we hold  
2 **Summer went down in a hush of bows**  
3 Summer went down in a hush of bows - - - -

1 the weeping person we are holding ourselves  
2 **(When we hold the weeping person we are holding ourselves)**  
3 (When we hold the weeping person we are holding ourselves) - - - -

1 shadows - - - is chained - - -  
2 **summer - - - in ink - - - like a broken womb - - -**  
3 there is - - -

1 like a blind man - - - when is - - -  
2 **the unborn** **morning**  
3 is only my tissue - - - death - - -

1 this all We are hanging  
2 **will - - -** **is** **the world** **discipline - - -**  
3 of - - - a wonderful - - - end - - -

1 over the minute I am  
2 **inside** **I am** **weeping**  
3 the true meaning - - - of chastity is knowledge

1 (And these days will pass  
2 **for my generation - - - - -** **(Holy and unholy days**  
3 (Risings

1 and these days stacking each upon the other  
2 **days of loneliness**  
3 and fallings of days

1 in a bitter-sweet lamination  
2 **when life sits**  
3 mind and spirit slack and recumbent

1 of memories  
2 **stark and silent** in the currents  
3 trapped in the jagged grind and tumble of time)

1 lost and found) - - - - it is very curious - - - -  
2 **of melancholy)** very curious - - - -  
3 it is very curious - - - -

1 I sit over my books like an insect here is a stone age  
2 **I sit** over my books like an insect  
3 I sit

1 of the spirit memory has many waiting rooms - - - -  
2 **here** the sky  
3 over my books like an insect

1 went down at last in a hush  
2 is lyrical with stars  
3 memory has many waiting rooms - - - - -

1 (I understand that it is not necessary  
2 **(Do you understand? - - - - -**  
3 (I understand

1 to understand the mystery  
2 **Do you understand? - - - - -**  
3 that it is not necessary to understand

1 of that which can only be understood by not  
2 **Do you understand? - - - - -**  
3 the mystery of that

1 understanding)  
2 **I understand)**  
3 which can only be understood by not understanding) - - - - -

1 I am strangled by the days that pass  
2 at last in a hush of bows  
3 the sky is lyrical with stars

1 through me - - - - -  
2 It is so silent - - - - - by the days  
3 in a hush that pass through me

1 here at night The heavens are falling  
2 It is so silent - - - - - There is hardly time to dream  
3

1 The heavens are falling  
2 There is hardly time  
3 It is something unknown - - - - - It is something

1 The great anvil - - - - - of the frost - - - - - is pounding us - - - - -  
2 to dream  
3 unknown - - - - -

1 The heavens are falling - - - there is only my tissue - - - death is a wonderful discipline  
2 **There is** **hardly time** **to breathe**  
3

1 We are  
2 **shadows in ink like a broken womb - - - when will this end**  
3 it is something unknown - - - - Summer is chained

1 (Awakened this morning - - - freshest newest  
2 **hanging** **I am weeping**  
3 like a blind man - - - the unborn morning of the world

1 morning - - - of all eternity)  
2 **for my generation - - - -** **time is**  
3 Your body was dust - - - -

1 large drops of blood - - -  
2 **a heartbeat - - - -** **(suddenly - - so suddenly)**  
3 the earth weeps

1 the moon is shining on these pages  
2 **(I am here -- here where I am)**  
3 The moon

1 time is a heartbeat - - - -  
2 **The sky is lyrical - - - -**  
3 is shining on these pages - - - -

1 it is very curious I sit over my books - - - -  
2 **it is very curious - - - - with stars** **The summer - - - -**  
3 it is very curious

1 like an insect - - - -  
2 **went down - - - -**  
3 The ring - - - - of immense triviality - - - -

1 (I am here) - - - -  
2 **at last - - - - in a hush of bows - - - -**  
3 the immense agony - - - -



1 There is hardly time to dream - - - - -  
2 **The heavens are falling** - - - - -  
3 There is hardly time to dream - - - - -

1 when will it all end  
2 **I am weeping** for my generation - - - - - **do you understand** - - - - -  
3 when will it all end

1 do you understand...  
2 **do you understand...**  
3 do you understand...

Crete, Greece, 11/78  
\*Fragments from The Black Book, by Lawrence Durrell

## LISTEN

1 And yet - - - but why - - - and yet  
2 **Hello**  
3 What is sad  
4 **And yet - - - but why - - - and yet**

1 but why and yet  
2 **there's a thing I want to tell you**  
3 really very sad at least to me  
4 **but why**

1 but why and yet  
2 **An important Oh God yes**  
3 it's sad so very sad  
4 **and yet but why and yet**

1 but why and yet but why  
2 how important a thing  
3 is the withering in middle age  
4 but why

1 and yet but why  
2 that you need to hear - - -  
3 it comes we see it  
4 but why and yet but why

1 and yet but why and yet  
2 that you must hear in order for you and me  
3 of the soul a withering  
4 and yet but why

1 but why and yet  
2 to survive - - - this life and flower in it  
3 to the soul we see it  
4 and yet but why

1 but why and yet - - - -  
2 **at least a little - - - -**  
3 in middle age a withering  
4 **and yet but why**

1 but why  
2 **So listen please listen**  
3 of the heart and it is sad - - - it is sad  
4 **and yet but why**

1 and yet but why and yet  
2 **and this is a big part of it**  
3 so very sad this withering  
4 **and yet but why**

1 but why and yet  
2 **to listen - - - - because**  
3 of the heart this withering  
4 **and yet but why**

1 but why  
2 **if we don't listen to each other we deny each other**  
3 that comes  
4 **and yet but why**

1 and yet but why  
2 **and rejection which leads**  
3 in middle age a withering  
4 **and yet but why**

1 and yet but why  
2 **to isolation which leads**  
3 of the soul a withering  
4 **and yet but why and yet**

1 and yet but why  
2 **to loneliness which leads to death - - - - -**  
3 of the heart a withering  
4 **but why**

1 and yet but why  
2 **Not just for you** and me  
3 of joy and laughter  
4 **and yet** but why and yet

1 and yet but why and yet - - -  
2 **but - - -** for the entire world - - - -  
3 is sad so sad  
4 but why

1 but why - - - and yet  
2 **If we are to flower**  
3 that withering  
4 **and yet - - -** but why - - - and yet

1 but why  
2 **we must listen - - -**  
3 of the soul (we must listen) - - - that withering  
4 **but why** and yet

1 and yet but why  
2 **to each other - - -** All kinds  
3 (to each other) - - - of the heart  
4 **but why**

1 and yet but why - - -  
2 **and ages** and geographies  
3 that withering of joy and laughter  
4 **and yet** **but why** **and yet**

1 and yet but why  
2 **must listen** to each other - - - -  
3 withering of the mind  
4 **but why** **and yet**

1 and yet but why  
2 **This is** our only chance and we are  
3 that comes  
4 **but why - - - but why**

1 and yet  
2 **hopelessly moving** in the wrong direction  
3 in middle age How sad  
4 **and yet** but why

1 - - - but why and yet  
2 Listen - - - listen - - -  
3 that withering that comes  
4 **and yet** but why

1 but why  
2 **by denying** and ignoring each other  
3 in middle age that comes  
4 **and yet**

1  
2 **we are willing** each other out of existence - - - -  
3 in middle age that comes in middle age  
4



1 but why - - - - - and yet - - - - - but why  
2  
3 What is sad really very sad  
4 **and yet - - - - - -but why - - - - - and yet**

1 but why but why  
2  
3 at least to me it's sad so very sad is the withering  
4 **and yet and yet**

1 but why and yet  
2 **Loneliness**  
3 that comes in middle age - - - - - It comes  
4 **and yet but why**

1 but why and yet  
2 **and isolation is the final room**  
3 we see it of the soul  
4 **and yet but why**

1 but why but why  
2 **and we are knocking** on the door - - - -  
3 a withering to the soul  
4 **and yet**

1 and yet but why  
2 **But we have** the power  
3 we see it in middle  
4 **but why - - -** and yet **but why**

1 and yet but why  
2 **to give to each other** existence  
3 age a withering of the heart  
4 **and yet**

1 and yet but why and yet  
2 **as well as take it away** by listening **to each other**  
3 and it is sad so very sad  
4 **and yet** **but why**

1 but why  
2 **and to ourselves**  
3 this withering of the heart this withering that comes  
4 **and yet** **but why**

1 and yet - - - - but why - - - -  
2 **we can mobilize** **against isolation - - -**  
3 in middle age  
4 **and yet - - - - -but why - - - - -**

1 and yet but why  
2 **We can fertilize**  
3 a withering of the soul a withering of the heart - - - - -  
4 **but why** **and yet**

1 and yet but why  
2 **the seeds of life** **by giving**  
3 a withering of joy and laughter  
4 **and yet** **but why**

1 and yet and yet  
2 **the gift of existence**  
3 is sad so sad that withering of the soul  
4 **and yet but why**

1 but why  
2 **to one another but we must listen - - - listen - - -**  
3 that withering of the heart  
4 **and yet but why**

1 and yet but why and yet  
2 **before it is too late We must listen**  
3 that withering of joy and laughter  
4 **but why - - - - - and yet**

1  
2 **with feeling and with love we must listen**  
3 withering of the mind that comes in middle age  
4

1 and yet - - - - - and yet  
2 (and yet) - - - - - **Loneliness**  
3 (but why) - - - - - How sad  
4 **but why** - - - - -

1 but why and yet - - - - -  
2 **and isolation** **is the final room**  
3 that withering  
4 **and yet** **but why**

1 and yet - - - - - and yet and yet  
2 **and we are knocking on the door** **So quickly**  
3 that comes in middle age that comes  
4 **but why** **but why**

1 and yet and yet - -  
2 **quickly** **listen**  
3 in middle age that comes - -  
4 **but why** **but why - -** **but why - -**

1 and yet - - and yet - -  
2 **listen** - - - - **listen** - - - -  
3 in middle age - - comes in - -  
4 **but why** - -

1 and yet - - - and yet - - - -  
2 **listen** - - - **listen** - - - -  
3 middle age - - -  
4 **but why** - - **but why** - - - -

1 and yet - - - - -  
2 **listen** - - - - -  
3 middle age - - - - - middle age - - - - -  
4 **but why** - - - - - **but why**

1 and yet - - - - -  
2 - - - - - **listen** - - - - - **listen** - - - - -  
3 comes in - - - - -  
4 **but why** - - - - -

1 and yet - - - - -

2

3

4

middle age - - - - -

but why - - - - -

**listen - - - - -**

1

2

3

4

listen - - - - -

**listen - - - - -**

listen...

London, 2/1979

### THREE POEMS

1 I am on the threshold of the moment of birth  
2 **We are creatures** in a moment  
3 This moment

1 of the moment - - - - -  
2 **The moment** is perfect  
3 is all that we have for in this moment

1 of sight of the moment of touch  
2 **the moment passes**  
3 is all of life and life is now - - - - -

1 of the moment of the first tear  
2 **we are forgotten** **we will never forget** before  
3 and never was



1 (I am on the threshold of the moment of birth)  
2 **What is life** (We are creatures in a moment)  
3 or after - - - - - (This moment is

1 The moment of laughter  
2 **but the moment**  
3 all that we have) - - - - - the moment beyond

1 the moment of embarrassment the moment of anger  
2 **What is the moment**  
3 this moment

1 the moment of the first love - - - - -  
2 **but eternity** **What is eternity**  
3 will never be felt - - - - -

1 Moment of rejection (I am on  
2 **but the moment** **again**  
3 for though it be an eternity - - - - -

1 the threshold)

2 **(Life is now and never was)**

3 (The moment beyond this moment will never

1 Moment of success moment of failure - - - - - moment

2 **We are creatures**

3 be felt) - - - - - it has no existence

1 of the first disaster - - - - -

2 **in a moment** **the moment is perfect**

3 We are born in this moment

1 Of frustration of crisis

2 **the moment passes** **we are forgotten - - - - -**

3 and we die - - - - -

1 of marriage of the first child

2 **we will never** **never forget**

3 in this moment and all space

1 Moment of divorce moment of loneliness moment  
2 **What is life but the moment**  
3 between

1 of peace moment of first illness the moment of truth - - - -  
2 **What is the moment but eternity**  
3

1 (I am on the threshold)  
2 **(We are born in this moment**  
3 (What is the moment but eternity)

1 the moment of anxiety  
2 **and we die in this moment) - - - -** **What is eternity**  
3 is enclosed

1 the moment of longing the moment of the first falling - - - -  
2  
3 within this moment And sadly

1 Of the moment of hopelessness

2

3 it is in this moment that many of us barely exist

1 of the moment of senility of the moment of death - - - - -

2

3 caught as we are in the anxiety

1 of the moment of the first returning

2 **but the moment again** (of the moment of the

3 of moments (of the moment of the first returning)

1 I - - - - - am on the threshold

2 **first returning)**

3 past or future - - - - - Beyond and before

1 of every moment every moment every moment

2 **We are creatures** **in a moment**

3 are fantasy This moment

1 every moment every moment  
2 **the moment is perfect**  
3 is all that we have - - - - for in this moment

1 every moment every moment  
2 **the moment passes** **we are**  
3 is all of life - - - and life

1 every moment  
2 **forgotten** **we will never forget**  
3 and life is now and never was - - - -

1 I am on the threshold of the moment of birth  
2 **I am on the threshold of the moment**  
3 |

1 of the moment of sight of the moment of touch  
2 **of birth**  
3 am on the threshold of the moment

1 of the moment - - -  
2 of the moment of sight of the moment - - -  
3 of birth of the moment - - -

1 of the first tear - - - - - the moment of laughter  
2 of touch of the moment of the  
3 of touch

1 the moment of embarrassment  
2 first tear - - - the moment of laughter  
3 of the moment of the first tear

1 the moment of anger  
2 the moment of embarrassment before or after  
3 the moment of laughter

1 the moment of the first love - - - - - moment of rejection  
2 the moment of anger  
3 The moment beyond

1 (What is life  
 2 **the moment of the first love** - - - - (but the moment  
 3 this moment (What is

1 what is eternity again) - - - -  
 2 **but eternity** again) - - - -  
 3 the moment but the moment)

1 moment of success moment of - - - failure - - -  
 2 **moment of** - - - **rejection**  
 3 will never be felt

1 moment of the first disaster - - - -  
 2 **moment of success**  
 3 for though it be an eternity - - - -

1 of frustration  
 2 **moment of failure** **moment of the first disaster**  
 3 it has no existence - - - - We are born

1 of crisis of marriage  
2 of frustration of crisis  
3 in this moment and we die in this moment

1 of the first child moment of divorce  
2 of the first child - - -  
3 (of the first child) - - - - within this moment And sadly

1 moment of peace moment of first  
2 **What is life - - -** but the moment  
3 it is in this moment

1 illness - - - the moment of truth  
2 **What is the moment** but eternity  
3 that many of us barely exist

1 the moment of anxiety the moment  
2 **What is eternity**  
3 caught as we are in the anxiety



1 of longing  
2 **but the moment again**  
3 of moments past or future Beyond and before are fantasy

1 the moment of the first falling  
2 **We are creatures in a moment** **the moment is perfect**  
3 This moment is all that we have

1 of the moment of hopelessness  
2 **the moment passes**  
3 for in this moment is all of life

1 of the moment of senility  
2 **we are forgotten** **we will never forget**  
3 and life is now ad never was

1 of the moment - - - of death  
2 - - - - **What is life** **but - - -** **the moment**  
3 before - - - or after - - -

1 (The moment beyond this moment will never  
 2 **(The moment beyond this moment will never be felt)**  
 3 The moment beyond this moment will never be felt

1 be felt) - - - - of the moment of the first returning - - -  
 2 **What is the moment**  
 3 this moment of the first returning - - -

1 I am on the threshold  
 2 **but eternity what is eternity but - - -**  
 3 will never felt for though it be an eternity

1 every moment  
 2 **the moment again We are creatures**  
 3 it has no existence - - - -

1 every moment every moment every moment  
 2 **in a moment**  
 3 We are born in this moment

1 every moment every moment every moment - - - - -  
2 **the moment is perfect**  
3 and we die

1 every moment every moment  
2 **the moment passes we are forgotten**  
3 in this moment and all space between is enclosed

1 every moment every moment every moment  
2 **we will never forget**  
3 within this moment

1 every moment - - - - - every moment  
2 **What is life**  
3 And sadly it is in this moment

1 every moment every moment  
2 **but the moment**  
3 that many of us barely exist caught as we are

1 every moment every moment  
2 **What is the moment but eternity**  
3 in the anxiety of moments

1 every moment every moment  
2 **What is eternity but the moment again again**  
3 past or future

1 every moment every moment  
2 **We are creatures**  
3 Beyond or before are fantasy This moment

1 (This moment is all that we have)  
2 **in a moment the moment passes**  
3 is all that we have for in this moment

1 every moment every moment - - - -  
2 **and we are forgotten we will never forget**  
3 is all of life

1 every moment - - - - -  
2 **What is life** - - - - -  
3 life is now - - - - - and never was - - - - -

1 every moment - - - - - every moment - - - - -  
2 **but the moment** - - - - -  
3 before or after - - - - -

1 every moment - - - - -  
2 **What is the moment** - - - - - **but eternity** - - - - -  
3 before or after - - - - -

1 every moment - - - - - every moment...  
2 **eternity** - - - - -  
3 after - - - - -

London, 3/79

## FRAGMENTS FROM A FOUND POEM

1 Am I being watched who cares - - - - -  
2 **Fragments of a simplicity**  
3 Nervous habits

1 here we go a new place  
2 **lying in a bed** pulses - - - pulses  
3 it is accurate a bunch of people

1 I never could why bother  
2 **slipping away** me without you  
3 I cannot remember who anyone is

1 I don't understand - - -  
2 **to forget to forget what**  
3 being ignored It was like I didn't exist

1 a smile from a child  
2 **I couldn't tell you how much** **What is it are you mad**  
3 It must have been very painful for him

1 - - - Something to contend with descending night  
2 **an interval - - -** **I mean**  
3 a daily life - - -

1 Charles what are you saying? So say it  
2 **I had one** **other things** **being equal**  
3 Charles what are you saying? Moderately so

1 is that what you said? - - - -  
2 **You get on my nerves** **If I've said it once**  
3 If I've said it once I said it 100 times

1 If I've said it once I've said it 100 times - - - - pure avoidance  
2 **I've said it 100 times**  
3 I wonder if I should feel hurt

1 Charles you are splintered  
2 **a bridge of sighs - - - -** **it's a new situation**  
3 but - - - - - but - - - - -

1 bull-shit  
2 **today is today** **several things come**  
3 Who is Charles? There are no other choices

1 why not touch me?  
2 **to mind - - -** **Was she really lonely and scared just like me**  
3 I'm tempted to look back and see what I've done - - -

1 It's a Jewish thing  
2 **what can I say** **it fits**  
3 touch yourself several things come to mind

1 everything fits quite fitting - - - Hello children  
2 **I prefer him** **I forget**  
3 nothing fits not particularly



1 the beating heart of the universe - - -  
2 **the beating heart of the universe**  
3 see Dick run candlelight

1 that's profound that's not profound that's profound  
2 **the order of things** pleasure  
3 Hello

1 there is no time soon we say goodbye  
2 **here in present time** we've not  
3 not here why bother

1 This is a strange game we play  
2 **said hello** You've made my life so glamorous it weaves - - -  
3 like it was At any time I might lose it

1 nonsense - - - silence - - - - -  
2 **memory - - -** I could do worse  
3 spellbound - - - holy - - -

1 It wouldn't be easy you're not  
2 **I could never figure it out**  
3 never mind - - - no matter

1 really interested I wonder if lesser is a weak enough word for it - - - - -  
2 **I wonder if lesser is a weak enough word for it**  
3 I wonder if lesser is a weak enough word for it

1 and today June 1978  
2 **March May and today December 13, 2004**  
3 February April 1976

1 only now and all the other nows  
2 **and today**  
3 there is noss time when was that - - - - -

1 Are you here for wisdom?  
2 **Do you own your body?**  
3 Would you like to make some money?

1 That's a lie Why do you need it  
2 **Do you lie?** **We must look out**  
3 Are you a good lover?

1 so badly - - - - -  
2 **for ourselves** **Are you able to answer questions?**  
3 Do you ask questions?

1 Are you suspicious of questions?  
2 **These are not real questions**  
3 why do they bother you?

1 What would you like to forget? She smoked  
2 **we all have the fear - - - - -**  
3 she never wept

1 incessantly  
2 **it was an impotent smile**  
3 she didn't care - - - - - sweat on my armpits

1 it would never be allowed - - - - -

2 **I'm trying to forget what I'm trying not to remember**

3 I'm trying to forget what I'm trying

1 I need to forget that - - - - - that's not profound

2 **words are naked - - - - -**

3 not to remember

1 that's no longer profound - - - - - that's profound...

2 **Goodbye - - - - -**

3 words suck - - - - -

7/79