

(begun February 7, 1949)

(a series of poems. an " intermission " before painting and independence. and following a small amount of the same qualities. " intermission " -- a plateau on which to expand and grow strong;-- to develop the discoveries of the " first act " and to prepare for and plan the second and final " act " .)

INTERMISSION

INTERMISSION

(a much more specific " intermission " .
-- a very optimistic phrase.)

I

" black thinks in black "

my sun is an electric lightbulb,

my food, memories,

time has no direction but

a hazy retreat.

-- black footsteps on white sand,

white feet on another land.

white is black

only through it's shadow.

two dark shadows

united by blue.

MEMORIES ALLOW NO SUCH THINKING.

alas, wealthy past --- happy.

to think, that is wrong.

thinking is in black,

black highlighted by an electric lightbulb.

2

" a plea to white "

disassembled confusions

swept by scars,

formed decisions,

complex complexities.

incomplete worlds,

the electric lightbulb.
 and, a click turns off
 blue, piercing shadows,
 a breeze pushes
 and small footprints appear by large.
 ----- white feet turn to white sand
 to blue and yellow sparks.
 a brilliant green carpet swirls up
 splinter and clang on rock.
 angular forms crash and
 WHITE IS OVERPOWERED BY BLUE.
 yellow rests in blue.
 black glows red, orange, yellow.
 " black dreams in light "

3

WHITE ! HEED LIGHT !
 and not silvery river.
 to see sleet and rain
 without seeing family;
 to see man, woman, and boy
 see too many.
 ---- it is too easy to
 in light.
 white is only white
 but with no brightness.

GOOD CATCH

I

small boat.

small boat finds net.

many hands ache, bleed,

many hands find net.

web of higher species,

strong, steel destiny of

FISH.

helpless fish.

many.

2

many hands found many fish.

HO ! A GOOD CATCH.

blood and blood covered deck,

and man's was mixed with

fish's.

silver blades touched silver scales

and sprayed glitter.

reflected in man's

eye.

3

flashing lives

needing only light,

ONE LIGHT.

did they realize that

small boat loaded with
GOOD CATCH
goes home.
decks are clean
and many hands
are covered with clean
bandages.

4

there were TWO. SHOULD
they ?

I

it is necessary

to search for

alone.

state of rest and

grey tweede.

occasionally,

it is possible

to forget

ALONE,

but with eyes

alive.

2

"caution", they said.

"caution,

beware,

take care,

(VOYE GRAPENUTS),

MODERATION.

--- don't violate."

3

starve steel

held by grey

.....

... the only way.

" HEY, WHY NOT GAY ?!!!!!! "

6

----- " why not gay ? "

5

to search for ALONE AND GREY ?

It was necessary

why did I say

but,

4

BROKEN CARDBOARD

white sheath

broken by

spontaneity;

blade

that never

existed;

hand

who

cried

and with pity

hurled sheath at

steaming shadow.

fingers close,

winkles laugh

orange, yellow

faces.

-- silver thrust

and pale sheath becomes

broken cardboard.

WEALTH

ragged deception,

hidden in extremities,

obscured by yellow

whisperings.

demand no

answer,

for, he ponders

question.

decision sits upon

decision,

and sharp angles

become weighty curves.

ponderous profoundly,

groping flashlights,

lunging fingernails

grasping smoky abstractions.

another texture,

another problem.

-- he who dictates

is elusive.

SACRED SOMNAMBULATIONS

sensing sentiment,

soulful steps

speed.

swept toward

white

letter.

..... serpents

cough

and

laugh

at my

" sacred somnambulations " .

PITY

bothered

by bugs,

the dark shape

barked.

praised

blisters

appeared and

hurt.

piercing

finger nails

spiked and

cried

sensitive

sentiment,

black

as

cheese,

and yelling

GOD.

striped

with sex's

scissors,

wept

cotton proformities

and

slapped at the

bugs.

bothered
by bugs,
the dark shape
barked.
bruised
blisters
appeared and
hurt.
piercing
fingernails
spiked and
cried
sensitive
sentiment,
black
as
cheese,
and yelling
GOD.
stripped
with sex's
scissors,
wept
cotton profundities
and
slapped at the
bugs.

PITY

SLEEP-WALKING

sacred somnambulations,

senseless

meandering.

aimed at

saint,

strengthened by

misconception.

foolish freedom

for

fools;

freakish

sanctity for

those

who misinterpret.

ignore

the

stupid;

spit on the

despised;

kill the crippled.

dictator who screams to the

dismissing

shall

cure

this

sleep-walking.

REAL

broken sand,

eyes of zinc,

naked and

skinny;

cracked sneezes,

tattooed

for

disaster;

mud and

laughter,

sweet

and

rusty;

cardboard,

white as

starch.

label

our

tree,

call him by his right name. after all, we must see

reality.

FORECAST

with current,

molded

by

propensity;

propagated

islands

for

zeal;

(sarcastic

stren

stutters;

worm

turns

(clown) ;

all will be well this year if there is low
precipitation.

PINK-YELLOW

blue black, lavender,

yellow, orange,

red.

burnt orange,

pink,

yellow.

cool red,

purple,

yellow green.

blue green, pink,

red orange,

lavender.

black,

grey.

cool grey,

pink,

yellow.

dark grey,

purple,

black.

dark grey,

black,

white.

ODE TO AN ODOR

(he smells:

gad, what an

odor.)

self-consciously sensing

objection,

the wierd

bird

walked.

(what

at

smell !)

black diamond

in a swamp,

stabilized disequilibrium

of a kite,

scapagoat for

goats:

(he stinks !!!!!)

- then, one day, he read a

poster for a

gargle.

(hey, Mac. do y' hear that ?

yah, and do you smell that ?

(in chorus)

HE'S BACK !!!!!!!!!!!!!)

monkey.

understand

will

never

HE

but,

to understand.

monkey

all this was simple for

lips.

OF HIS

and, by understanding the curves and sharpness

twitches,

times HIS accumulated

multiplying it by seven

by

movements and

reflection of monotonous

only by watching their own

speech

deftly human

monotonous monkeys

DISINTEREST

PROGRESSION

machines

playing hop-scotch

as children

used to do;

cart-wheels

performed

by

propellers;

the GANG around the

corner,

using human

eyes

as

marbles.

--particles of patriots

for parrots

who

have learned to

split

instead of

speak.

I

soft, restrained mood of smoothed

and feathery,

to be pricked and

tasted.

bitter pellets make

more complex; acidity

attempts to

tease,

but, is not seen.

AGONY of being ignored springs fingers

into chalky, scraping dance of

entanglement.

2

blazing

spear

interrupts; staccato

steps defend.

LAUGH

and

fuel splinters into

quiet confusion that can only

point.

sliding clouds outline path,

and roundness becomes

shine.

SEDUCED

gardens

moulded by

intensity;

azaleas, bluebonnets,

roses;

spontaneous accents by nature

planted not so

spontaneously, for

effect.

the backyard

burns greens and

reds.

row

faces

row

strangles

row.

FOUR, and it's time to work in the

garden.

wilted leaves, a weed, some

fertilizer;

the soil ^{stay} must be rich and

clean.

flowers for perfection scream

blazing, controlling colors.

-- solution only for the

soulful.

sunswapt never,
coarse acre
of
prophecy.

crisp, steel threads,
snapped, cracked,
snapped, cracked,
as seeds in a
popcorn machine.

cigar smoke
and cigar wrappers
and cigar smokers
and cigars.
and thoughts of
cigars.

time out
for a popcorn
to sweeten the cigar taste
and a rest
before the next smoke.

popcorn's crisp
but don't have the taste of
cigars, and

you can't smoke it.
Smoke's what's
good.

COBWEB

GRANITE WORLD

blind, yellow faces,

assaying their madness,

breathe bubbles of

ineptitude

at

stringent

shadows that

echo and regurgitate with

mixed feelings

sugar

and

pink

and

panic as green

and snort and spake and struch and stnerf

and cream and milk and

babies.

blind, yellow faces LAUGH and feel

the texture of their granite world.