



# Mutterings of a Mediocre Micro-Poet

a collection of 140 poems  
that fit into 140 characters  
written & tweeted by

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## **for Kathy**

your photography  
rekindled  
a poet's flame  
within me.

Thank you.

### **Special thanks to**

- Amber - Sarah - Kris - Jay - Aurynn - Tash - Mike - Alix -

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(I'm not entirely certain why)

but you're most welcome to fill it up

(if you'd like)

# Types of Muttering

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(Schematic of an Ignifluous Micro-Poem)	

# on Life

## Time

Time's accursed embrace  
stifles  
dreams but stirs  
hope regardless.

## Boredom

Human consciousness  
tied down to a complex choreography  
of atoms  
flying in close formation  
and yet we have the temerity  
to be bored.

## Babe Asleep

Dreamed serenity  
claims  
a tiny mind,  
radiating  
quiet freedom

Silence sings its  
timeless  
song as tiny  
breaths  
breathe future softly.

## Smiles

There comes a  
moment  
in each life  
when realisation  
dawns

All that's good & wondrous  
bright  
hides twinkling  
in a child's smile

## Rain & Rebirth

How strange `tis  
that life should fall  
from broiling vap'rous  
skyward stores;

Yet stranger still  
that it should bring  
bright colour, but  
be clad in  
gray.

## Friends

Friends beyond worth  
anchor  
us to sanity  
heal old wounds  
fragile  
connections nurtured often  
grow new strength  
wellsprings  
of pure joy.

## Mornings

Oh, caffeine.  
I love you,  
but we really have  
to stop meeting like  
this.

# Good Night

**1**

Good night.  
I seek for sleep,  
that oblivious  
peace,  
to find, I hope,  
a bright new day.

**2**

Good night.  
May the photons  
of distant stars  
sing lullabies  
on your  
retinas.

**3**

Good night.  
May the distant  
dawn  
bring new hopes  
new wings  
new journeys  
and Tui who  
sweetly sing.

**4**

Good night.  
I hope the  
flickering  
electrochemical  
dance within  
your brain  
brings you pleasant  
dreams.

**5**

Goodnight Internet.  
May your loved  
ones  
hold you  
close.  
And your tomorrow  
hold some small  
speck  
of brightness.

**6**

Goodnight internet.  
I weep for the  
horrors  
that I have seen.  
May you each find  
solace in your  
dreams,  
that we can stand  
to face another day.

**7**

Good night,  
Internet.  
I don't really know  
what to say  
anymore.  
The world seems  
so hostile.  
I hope you find  
some peace  
as you  
dream.



## Rush Hour

Morning bustles warm  
singing  
voices scurry thousandfold  
beneath unhurried sky  
serene  
light belights only  
anxiousness.

## Potential

Blue eyes open  
wide  
vast worlds ahead  
and myriad wonderful  
journeys  
that await such  
small feet.

## Dinner

Hunger sees far  
beyond  
sunset blaze simmering  
horizon no barrier

Home  
sings strong harmonies  
rest, peace, family  
and dinner.

## Worry

Worries breed worrisome  
worries  
multiples abundant  
anxious storms brewing  
SUNSHINE  
bursts fresh ablaze  
it's not that big  
a deal

## **Mistakes**

The rain falls.  
It washes the tired asphalt,  
sweeping away yesterday's mistakes.  
The scunge between my toes.  
And hopes I held  
for sunshine.

## **Writers' Block**

Jib jab flabberdack  
walk the silent screaming  
orange.  
I'm writing nonsense now  
and you can't stop me.  
Orange.

## **Grey Thursdays**

Sitting in the sunshine  
Sheltered from the wind  
Trying hard to believe  
Everything will be alright.

## **Employment**

The universe is  
change  
Matter to energy  
Potential to kinetic  
Time for money  
Sanity for survival  
(perhaps there is  
a better way)

## **Uncommon Envelopes**

So strange, this world -  
of borrowed bytes  
& captured moments -  
where magic things  
can still be found  
in small brown  
paper envelopes.

## **Sugar Doughnuts**

Glistening crystals beckon  
delicious  
warmth bound doughily  
manifest chemistry arcane  
delight  
singular by mouthful  
consumed.

## **Keyboard Kittens**

Work produces output  
inadvertent  
cuteness crawls gently  
keyboard's warmth embraces  
soft  
and fragile yet  
immovable.

## **Good Moods**

My words scatter  
with the wind beneath  
my wings.  
And why not?  
I guess it makes sense that  
happiness  
is hard to understand.

## **Children**

A sunbeam blazes  
brightly  
living light alive  
captured in a  
perfect  
smile.

## Reboot

Morning home awakes  
reforged  
ancient spirit channeled  
New connections newly  
birthed  
accelerate serendipity anew.

## Childhood Naps

Peace sneaks softly  
elusive  
moment's sweet serenity  
friendship's comfort dreaming  
timeless  
seconds fade away.

## Waiting

Still air breathes  
pulsing  
slowly slower racing  
heart awaits phantoms  
summoned  
alone by self  
only to know.

## Flow

Madness lingers lurking  
aflame  
neurons race brightly  
pure reality untempered  
dancing  
aether subtly forged  
idea made incarnate.

# on Computers

## Regardless

Intending untended tendencies  
clockwork  
born binary unbound  
twinkling lights unknowing  
automata  
digital mockeries regardless  
alive.

## Singularity

Do robots dream of electric sheep?  
Do cameras close their eyes to sleep?  
Will computers ever ponder deep?  
Or will they merely learn to weep?

## Spin

Spinny spin data disc  
give me all your kilobytes  
stop that buzzing  
spinny disc  
or I'll hurl you from the heights.

(we project such flippant things)  
(as unlikely as pigs w/ wings)  
(computers we gift w/ thought)  
(might find but sorrow at all we'd wrought)

# Dear Computer

**1**

Dear computer -  
    you strange assemblage  
    of bits and bytes  
    and silicon songs -  
please desist  
your endless errors  
and just print  
in A4 not A3.

**2**

Dear computer -  
    you cruel conglomerate  
    of parts I ordered  
    at a discount -  
please eject this disc  
before I lose my grip  
on sanity's  
raspberry

**3**

Dear computer -  
    you den of madness  
    wrought in endless  
    lines of code -  
that project is  
worth 40% of my mark  
what do you mean  
backup invalid?

**4**

Dear computer -  
    you great contraption  
    with all that cache  
    and MFLOPS -  
I'm sorry for those things  
I said  
Please stop beeping  
and boot up now

**5**

Dear computer -  
    you accursed vector  
    of digital frustration -  
what did I ever do  
to deserve this?  
aside from that time  
I dropped you (sorry).

## Dreams

Inside this  
assemblage  
of silicon and aluminium  
dwells  
a digital ghost  
dreaming  
strange dreams.

## **Ephemera**

We made towers of digital ivory  
Then cast the doors wide open  
We welcomed all to come within  
Though we'd barely even known them

And sparkling works we wrought together  
Too many to know them all  
And with a keypress, gone, forgotten  
The unfound bytes we mourn

## **The (Inter)Net**

What is it  
we have wrought?  
Ivory towers  
squid monsters  
walled gardens zenless  
bustle

The 'net we  
wove has ensnared  
us.

## **In Kerbin Orbit**

Black hulk looms  
ominous  
against distant galaxy  
bright stars resplendent  
oblivious  
photons softly illumine  
the oncoming storm.

## **Caged**

Do the glass-and-metal frames,  
in which we trap our data,  
cage our souls in cold embrace,  
or might they shield us from it?

## **Work-as-Haiku**

I help programming  
electromechanical  
electron-watchers.

# on Horses

## New Trails

Beyond each fence  
another  
day lurks unknowing  
stories yet untold  
wonder  
whispers over mist  
the path enfolded  
Noro lim  
Asfaloth

## Humble

They give us so much  
And ask for so little  
Drumming indelible hoofprints  
into our hearts  
to forge hope upon  
a gentle anvil.

## Regal

He strides forth  
proud  
in bearing regal  
cloaked in subtle  
night  
and golden sunset  
cascades dancing.

## Patience

Of earth and  
bone  
the sinews mighty  
stride the endless  
ancient  
Hoofbeat songs still  
singing joyous only  
for  
the patient.



## **Flying**

Flashing hooves thunder  
resplendent  
the wind bound  
by mortal efforts  
together  
we flee fleetly  
time's eternal embrace  
dancing.

## **Midgard**

Under blue oasis  
skies  
by windswept dreams  
of ancient mountains  
builded  
deep & endless  
over ancient songs  
alive  
we wander.

## **Struggle**

Time passes oft  
but slow & stuggl'd,  
yet trials end,  
& there awaits us  
friends' warm rest.

## **Horizons**

Dreams hidden within  
dreams  
silent soulbound soliloquy  
new paths unbidden  
arise  
new stepping stones  
beyond old horizons.

## **Noble**

Soft sable evening  
cloaks  
icy rain shining  
eyes alive piercing  
hearts  
noble claim unquestion'd  
strength and boundless  
soul.

## **Elfaxi**

Mane of ice  
Heart of fire  
Honeyed eyes  
dream-shod hooves

Midgard's finest  
distant thunder  
soulstrings shiver  
as he moves.

## **Draumur**

'Tis a poor  
dull  
moon that shines  
only if by eye  
beheld

In dreams and  
windswept  
mane is carried  
moons pure song  
illuminated.

## **Vafi**

Wearing joy's  
debris  
as just reward  
Mind singing  
Heart aflame  
Shining eyes  
harbour  
an infinite soul.

## **Onward**

Wind's friend-  
each step  
a race  
within  
its eddies

And when at rest,  
peaceful, still-  
mind's steps  
race ever  
onward.

## **Mud**

Oft we feel  
as drenched in mud  
and muck and all  
our failures

Toss your mane  
and dance for joy  
-mud simply doesn't matter!

## **Burdens**

Across a verdant field  
they trot  
burdened not by  
hectic worries  
and yet  
willing to carry  
us  
when said burdens  
we bear.

## **Dusk Rides**

Eyes towards the sunset  
Mane flows silver  
As the golden glow  
Calls stars serenely  
Into being.

## **Thunder**

And in the formless unlit void,  
the final star took on new form,  
thunder rolled from heavens deep,  
and wind was in his mane.

## **Coiled**

And coiled within  
mere mortal flesh,  
dwelt a spirit of  
power  
& flight  
& joy.  
He raced the wind itself,  
& danced in its embrace

## **Moments**

Passing moments frozen  
precious  
heart's warmth forever  
radiant from pixelated  
simulacrum.

# on Nature

## Inverse

Grass' glowers green  
afloat  
above sinking clouds  
the rainbow hunts  
unsated  
hunger grasping ever  
up  
toward hanging sentinel's  
perch.

## Alpine Lake

Under watchful giants  
slumbered  
icy fingers embrace  
by waves ancient  
songs  
carried tumbling over  
my ears.

## Midflight

Cold amongst twisted  
fate  
branches fingers grasping  
green  
eyes see future  
blazing  
silver wings carried  
to freedom

## Dawn

It dawns  
the new day  
luminous lightning  
fusion's candle bright  
They turn  
the old souls  
captured laughter  
wings of purest light

# Sunsets

**1**

Skies hold dark  
looming  
promise over sparkl'd  
frothy waves

All's aglow with  
living  
light and the  
hope of sunset  
flames.

**2**

Colour blazes ecstatic  
light  
burning the sky  
as evening's  
effervescence  
welcomes dusk  
welcomes quiet  
welcomes night.

**3**

All the sky  
aglow  
scarlet majesty burning  
radiant vapours simple  
reflection  
lights a wondrous  
world.

**4**

Evening sky embers  
glow  
burnished blue burning  
day's burdens fading  
deep  
unto endless stars  
ancient photons sing  
lullabies.

**5**

The sky burns blue  
lambent ephemera  
edging dark waves  
silent soldiers softening  
sun's slow sliding  
somnia.

**6**

Light dances brilliant  
ablaze  
deepest blue photons  
herald night brightly  
again  
turns the earth  
beneath fusion's fury  
serene.

## Stars

Storm clouds  
across  
silver sky  
blotting stars from sight

Unseen they shine for  
joy  
concealed burns nonetheless  
as bright!

## Hail

tip tap tip  
tap  
small icy stones  
step sharp  
upon the windsill  
tip tap  
rattatat  
staccato slivers  
salvoed  
harsh against the glass

## Morning Mists

White space hangs  
serene  
hollow ocean aloft  
land without burdened  
shadows

Consuming light whispers  
here  
dances freedom.

## Barn Cats

They say the dragons are no more  
gone by blade & blood & legend  
Fools! For still among us walk  
Those mighty hunters' hearts

## Life

Phoenix' fire rages,  
Moth-wing's lace faded,  
Sunset grain reflected,  
Splendid plumage of the soul.

## **Iceland**

The ocean sky  
crashes  
wave upon endless  
golden wave upon  
howling  
teeth of iceless  
gale gasping blue  
sky crash over  
me.

## **Respite**

Subtle grey skies  
shift  
pending moisture hovers  
dull purgatory suspense  
still  
journeys must venture  
'cross endless concrete  
seas.

## **Swans**

In a mirror  
brightly  
shines beauty other  
feather festooned arch  
graceful  
elegance swims manifold  
singing in many  
shapes.

## **Cloudprism**

Should insubstantial cloud  
happen  
to meet eyes  
at precise incidence  
shattered  
light sings rainbows  
just out of reach.

# on Ideas

## Time Travel

He told me  
DO NOT TOUCH  
hahathosefools  
I'LL SHOW THEM ALL  
Ouch!  
waitdon'tturnthatonrightnow  
.....  
I will tell him  
DO NOT TOUCH

## Clarification

Understanding's metaphoric lightbulb  
apparates  
twinkling darkness lifting  
misted misdirection displaced  
clarity  
to my eyes.

## Walled Gardens

Harvest machines consume  
souls  
tilled gardens private  
stilled serene essence  
burned  
on convenient personalised  
altar.

## Beginnings

A thousand launches  
launching  
bright rocket plumes  
shining ever building  
onwards  
'pon a stack of bricks.



## Skylarking

Joy wrapp'd  
In soft serenity  
While the fleeting skies  
Wheel above  
And all I see  
Is snowflakes  
And  
a skylark

## Lightbulb Moments

New dawn creative  
buzzing  
bounding neurons aswirl  
possibility's fresh percolation  
murky  
distant clarity longing  
soon  
to be born.

## Space Jumping

Oh to hurtle from the stars  
borne on wings of plasmic flame  
naught but hitech polymer thread  
to protect my mortal frame.

## Post-Shakespeare

I find myself affected strange by this  
each sentence that I say is changed thus  
infective though this pentameter be  
HALP ITS EATING MY BRAIN

## Future Food

A liquid brunch  
soylent  
bland beige nutrition  
soulless food displaced

This strange cold  
future  
promised healthy pizza  
still I await.

## Curse of the Expert

Cleverness extols clever  
guides  
illumine but enlightened  
the unknowing abandoned

Augment minds new  
fledged  
they may fly.

## Dimensional Goggles

Comic's gaze lifeless  
black  
ink bleeds story  
e'er onward demands

Scream the deep  
screaming  
time unbound dreaming  
Home at last

## Photography

Who dares capture  
motion?

Photons impact freezing  
in arcane embrace  
moments  
once and only.

Yet, in stillness  
still alive.

## Thought

What is thought,  
but a merry dance  
upon tangled neuronal  
tightropes?  
Electrified,  
biochemistry sings,  
& renders thusly:  
life.

## Conference Etiquette

'Tis only fair  
if from crowd  
you offer question  
- do be brief,  
earnest,  
free from spite -  
else our dungeon  
shalt thou find.

## Flight

Bright blue horizons  
expanding  
eyes seek further  
hope given wings  
unfettered  
now the distant  
dawn so much  
closer.

## Learned Ignorance

Dwells upon this  
strangely planet  
certain types of  
curious mind  
that seek only  
thoughts to fit  
those they're  
sure they'll find.

## Neologisms

Mimsy borograves,  
gymbing toves?  
What wondrous thing  
our tortured tongue;  
Those babbled sounds  
that Lewis bound  
& effortless  
gave meaning.

## Art

What worth have words  
and sculpted pixels?  
Or indeed each single breath?  
Except that they bring light  
unto a friend.

## Hope

Future swirls obscure  
mists  
hiding the maybes  
painting the unforgotten  
dreams  
yet formless forging  
new-seen hopes  
coalesce.

## Justice (#Ferguson)

### 1.

One more straw  
was all they could take.  
They called for justice...  
We watched as  
the answer came -  
billowing from a  
gas grenade.

### 2.

They asked for justice.  
We saw the tear gas billow  
We watched the marching line  
We flinched as LRAD wailed;  
The answer?  
"DENIED"

## Alliteration

Subtle sunset susurrations  
shimmer  
scarlet-shadowed shades  
softly slide serene  
skyward  
sights so slowly  
splendid sidling southward.

## Escapism

I shall swiftly  
devise  
poetic mutterings abstract  
words of parlous  
pow'r  
A portal gate  
with them I'll  
rend.

## Labels

We hid behind  
labels  
enlightened & progressive  
masks we cultivate  
desperately  
afraid we might  
be horribly terribly  
wrong

## Change

Wisdom sweet sings  
stillness  
pauses between purpose  
heart's fragile nurture  
brightly  
beckons new futures  
dawn sails unfurling.

# for Friends

## Against a System

We stand with you.  
Though power has no soul, no heart.  
We do. We listen.  
We stand.  
With you.

## The Self-Indulgent Writer

I saw once  
a self indulgent  
writer in distant  
mists.

I could tell  
because she glowed  
and  
word-danced with gleeful  
abandon.

## Insomnia

Today's burden chases  
haunting  
computer's bright stare  
beckons but empty  
escape

This evening's end  
bright dawn hastens  
afresh.

## The Photographer

She wore an ocean dress,  
by the setting seaside,  
and her hair  
danced in the breeze.

## Curator's Toolkit

Sing the future  
newly  
bound in graphite  
markings' frail embrace  
impending  
soon awakened dreams  
forged from simple  
toolkit songs.

## Feels

I'd write for you  
a Friday poem -  
but can words balm  
such feels' tumult?

Perhaps I'll try  
to write  
regardless -  
I hope your day  
improves somewhat.

## Birdsong Radio

Amidst crashing surf  
wings flutter  
sweet songs  
of ornithoids  
carried serene.

## For Bad Days

When faced with  
tumult  
'tis well remembered  
that fields verdant  
still  
sing green songs  
of new seren'ty  
sweet  
peaceful solace.

## Shared Words

I read your words,  
not by sun,  
but under roof of  
subtle shining silver  
clouds.  
And by your poem,  
I remember sun's  
warmth.

## The Scientist

They say the world  
is balanced 'bove  
(on razor edge  
no less)  
entropic precipice -  
an unstable state.  
Yet humankind's  
defiant grin,  
(or is it blind defiance?)  
still insists  
we have  
enough duct tape.

## Purple Hair/Blue sky

Purple hair/blue sky  
Absent clouds/driftng by  
Leaves' green/harmonies  
Photons dance/a symphony

## Salute

Roiling gasses fury  
incandescent  
shrouded deep in  
bitter smoke.

## Support

We cannot always know  
or help  
the struggles that consume.  
But stand beside with warmth  
we can  
and promise hearth's rest soon.



## Hobbes

Though storms rage  
fierce  
all round about  
shaking even stoutest  
hearts  
are stronger forged  
they who persevere.

## Newton

Each breath priceless  
fragile  
lives walk lively  
light upon heavy  
earth  
each block forged  
new memory aflame  
forever.

## Engaged

Life holds infinite  
moments  
fleeting so fleeting  
precious so precious  
alive  
we love deeply  
hearts dance brightly  
together.

## Drive

Endless eons vanish  
blazing  
ion plume eternal  
I have ridden  
patient  
exile's vital message  
"You are not  
alone."

# by Request

(I often take poetry requests from my twitter followers - they give me a title, & I reply with a poem)

## “a wild poet appears”

From the rhythm tree  
stepped forth  
along a metred path:  
A wild poet,  
set about,  
with rhyme-birds  
and unexpected sharks.

## “a giraffe”

My safari group,  
they hunt  
for me.  
I listen at the door,  
as they scheme.  
In related news,  
I’m still stuck as  
a giraffe.

## “looping”

It’s easy,  
they said.  
You just do it like that,  
y’know?  
Even a child  
could do it.  
And yet.  
Here I find myself,  
looping.

## “bunnies”

Whuffled nose sniffs  
pedantic  
Leporidae by bounds  
deep soulful eyes  
determined  
all possible morsels  
to consume.

## **“New Zealand sunrise haiku, including Oregono as the seasonal reference”**

That longest white cloud  
blazes new with subtle pink  
as flow'ring 'reg'no.

## **“hollow alchemists”**

Vapours fumes &  
odd testtubes  
Expert hands mix  
1 more drop  
Rolling thunder  
flaring lights &  
hollow statues  
on a burnt hilltop

## **“elements of dreams”**

Drifting far too  
airily  
'cross cognitive waters  
stirred to sudden  
flame  
the very earth  
trembles 'til we  
wake.

## **“militant penguins”**

They march militant  
endless  
ranks by night  
soldiers by flight  
submersed  
nature's tuxedo-clad  
assassins.

## **“SOON”**

We never knew  
they waited deep  
far down beneath  
the crashing waves  
the smugglers caves  
the long-lost ways  
and they say  
“SOON.”

## **“Saturn V”**

Distant traverse nearly  
home  
from starswept free-fall  
gravity beckons welcome  
welcome  
back to where  
by rockets we  
departed.

## **“to the moon”**

Upon an incandescent  
flame  
burns thunder skyward  
vast void's crossing  
silent  
moonsong subtle shining  
cratered cradle dreams  
aloft.

## **“on the occasion of saying f\*\*\* you to sadness”**

These leg irons?  
F\*\*\* em.  
I've no use  
for such burdens.

The lock doesn't turn  
but that won't slow me  
for I burn brighter.

## “tangled cassette tape”

1

Aaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaa  
aaaaaaaaaaaaaa  
aaa aaa aaaa  
aaaaaaaaaaaaaaaa  
aaaaaaaaaaaaaaaa  
iiiiiiiieeeeeeeeeeee  
It just ate my tape.

2

Memories of anguish  
entangled  
and twisting hopes  
such fragile tension  
evoked  
by mere magnetic  
tape.

## “song of the crying baby”

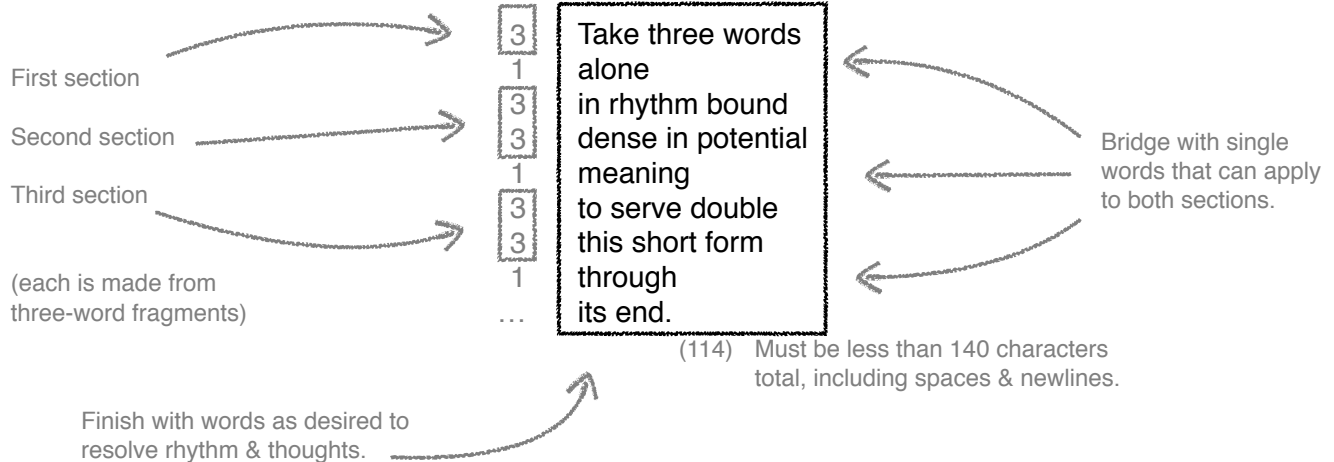
No sound evokes  
such multitudes  
as a baby’s endless cry:  
There’s hope, fear,  
wonder, still -  
exasperation! -  
and patient love.

## “epiphyte”

It seems strange,  
to cling so tight,  
to one on whom  
I don’t depend;  
Yet I live by  
all the tiny things  
which barely  
pass them by.

# Appendix

## (Schematic of an Ignifluous Micro-Poem)





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