

A Little Morning Music

ZzzzzZzzzzZzzzzZzzzzZzzzz

It was the key of E

ZzzzzZzzzzZzzzzZzzzzZzzzz

Punctuated by the coloratura

Of exuberant birds

Greeting the morning sunlight

As the bees rushed from flower to flower

Zealous to drink in the nectar of a new day

A leaf blower pierces this subtle but mighty symphony

Why can't we just allow the wind to blow the leaves?

Still the bees *ZzzzzZzzzzZzzzz*

Still the birds rival the greatest sopranos

And I pause

What am I adding to this grand opus?

Am I in harmony?

Am I the din?

ZzzzzZzzzzZzzzzZzzzzZzzzz

And we keep buzzing, humming, singing

As this little planet turns, ecstatically

In a symphony of galaxies and stars

Basking in the dayspring sun

Autumn at the Los Angeles River

Today, I walked
Along a river girded by concrete
As fall's cold hand caressed the sage nearby

Today, I walked
Among hundreds of shades of sepia, brown, vermillion
As I heard my footfalls distinctly, with no green, dewy foliage
To soften my heavy steps

Today, I walked
Among the surrendering of Naure
To fall's cold hand, which caressed the sage nearby

What parts of me are dry
What parts of me are brown, with no verve
What can soften my heavy footfalls

Today, I walked

A Beehive Displaced

A beehive displaced
Shrouded by passion flowers
As women walk by

Sap bleeds from tree
Purging as it witnesses
A blanket of leaves

Tiny tomatoes
Sunlit, ripen on crisp, green vines
Trampled by footsteps

Sacrifice of the Divine Child

This is the cup of the new and everlasting covenant
Shed for you and for all, so that our sins may be forgiven...

Do this in memory of Me.

In memory of the spooky parochial school halls
In memory of the wizened nuns, quietly obedient
In memory of the over-simplicity of rules
In memory of false piety laced with hypocrisy
In memory of crushing inadequacy

Do this, in memory of me, the child.

In memory of the child whose uniform never quite fit
Whose body developed too early
Who had trouble making friends
Who didn't have enough discipline

Do this, do that, don't do this, don't do that
So many tiny rules and expectations
To love, serve and obey