(They called them chances; Man, the brilliant fool; The Dog, the Wolf, the Moon; Chemical Imbalances, There's a hacking cough)

## They called them chances

Long before these promising sites existed, with such nonchalant etiquette and password security showcasing that pearly white moment never actually seen, in its blossoming beauty,

there where sites already existing, though there where no guarantees or payments, or promises, just the unknown mystery of time and space breathing, seeing, charting for gold

and what did they call these places?

They called them parks

ZOOS

beaches

fields

diners

rest stops

libraries

post offices

speak easies

nightclubs

bars

they called them chance's,

"could you believe it?" they'd say, even before these sites or those sites existed, there were arrangements pre conceived out of weight, height, color, and class "how far we've come," they'd say,

though I can't help but wonder, "or have we?"

#### Man, the brilliant fool

Man, the brilliant fool will create miraculous solutions as means to redeem his hand for the atrocities set forth while captivated by his idealistic splendor he will believe himself inferior and destroy, for his fantasy of the greater good, man, who can not fathom existence without his word, will conquer, or bleed, convinced of his right unable to divulge his reptilian notion he will claim righteous indignation, and burn burn, burn he will until no blade is left unmarred, distinguished only by himself a frail attempt to articulate perfection. man, will undoubtedly follow in droves for lack of better tidings, dissatisfied by his quarry, he will beg for pardon, and succumb never mind the blatant disarray of his own world he will take heed no matter the retribution and starve under the merciless audacity of the sovereign left later to crumble drenched in his dear soliloquy.

Man, the brilliant fool will tolerate his misfortune with grave desire held captive by his plight, he will marvel at his neighbors hand, convinced by the amiable ruse and with dubious intent he will forget himself living in the shadows to starve for his own reflection, having lost his decency for gold, man, who can not find solace within will brandish his certainty with little, or no regard, he will emerge disdainful and weep, for what anguish may be consider it doubled, for the saving grace of dignity he will deny through life and denounce in death. man, will conjure his last gasping breath relinquishing his one and only fear, he will crave his burden once more and toil in the exaltation of his craft, long enough to recall his woeful heart and give in once more to the demise he so nobly envisioned and descend to the trust of his sorrow.

Man, the brilliant fool

will destroy his fellow man then lie mortified in ruin, he will make haste to articulate his dominion and fall to the ominous wrath of his nature, left to repent and berate himself, as means of justice until at last he's found sincere or forgotten, man, who can not accept his fellow man shall no more accept himself and dwindle by the fire he so ruefully stokes, in misery he will not know peace, or understand love and with a mighty fist declare himself holy unable to indulge this life he will crave thereafter and praise with vile clarity his scorn, man, will tailor himself the beast forever hunting with righteous valor convinced of his duty, created in fear by himself, and only himself, he shall then subside to the clear oblivion where he himself is no more than a blade of grass to revel in the eternal ecstasy of sheer folly.

## The Dog, the Wolf, the Moon

See it in their eyes ready to pounce hungry dogs all wanting their piece.

While wolves pass cloaked as tender fawn cautiously aware and bleeding.

Little packs of prey who bark and howl like singing hymns to the moon.

Faint trails left scattered of flesh unborn leading the hungry onward, with gusto.

Broken from the pack trailing dumb grace watching without being the identified beast.

Till the wolf peals back it's skin revealed, to fawn no more over such misguided hunger,

and starve,

like singing hymns to the moon.

#### **Chemical Imbalances**

Big white vans overflow with glassy eyed children side stepping over one another some with their tongues out others with no tongues at all,

wearing over sized hand me downs socks over pants over ankles pulling tight at their collars some scratching their necks others scratching their balls,

like a heard of slaughterhouse cattle come these adult bodied infants milling about on strings some pulling at their hair others with no left to pull,

and there I am, standing, stupid, grounded boar crying to the depths of heaven with mind enough to decipher right from wrong, good from bad yet chewing the cud that is my poison,

guided like puppets, pawing the plastic looking straight at me are dear in headlights, being pushed forward some with broken teeth others with hardly enough to chew, they move in turn, walking through lava shoe strings dangling dirty fingernails hair combed back, slick as ice some scream with urgency others scream without – dangling,

big white vans fill back up with glassy eyed children side stepping over themselves, falling some carrying candy others carrying rotting fruit,

and there I am, sitting, masked, grounded boar crying to the reaches of hell with mind enough to know these chemical imbalances we share are all too common.

# There's a hacking cough

There's a hacking cough and this hunched over bum

chocolate glazed donut in hand sipping at an empty coffee cup

with closed eyes, he's chewing slow enough to explain that, it hurts

his rotten grey teeth, or what's left of them, working

and I can't look away, as now searching into his plastic bag

he's pulling out another taking a tired bite

his eyes open, just enough to see the big brown sadness of them

still hunched over, closing them now he's like an empty vessel

wrinkled leather, worn out as the ticket collector comes clicking through, he looks down at the sunken bum as if they're old friends, and clicks on by

so I take out my 12.50 ticket, click – click while the hacking cough continues.

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