

A QUINTET OF LOVE POEMS

In the key of Kate

1.

How Many Stars?

From Dark. Nothing. No Space. Then,

Fire—of the Prometheus kind!

As one law of physics de-generates

into four, maybe

quantaelectromagnagravity

(Whatever they call it these days)

A shredding of the what was [if it was maybe nothing at all]

now space, is also some

collection of the opposite of space it swirls

You know, SOME thing

The vast collection of SOMEthings appear in darkness

made the first Galaxies...

networks of them...

pulling light in tight

to keep out the ever-accelerating

foreverness

Even in that desert of darkness

A billion trillion lights start to burn in the night

Stars burn bright in the trillions

Stars burst apart in the billions

Stars collapsing make Nitrogen, Calcium, Iron!



You and I are Nitrogen, Calcium, Iron, and much more

manufactured for us by the Stars

In common conversation it would be ridiculous to say

that we're not from the same planet.

Is it ridiculous to ask if are we from the same stars?

How many stars did it take to make this place?

For us to meet?

How many stars made us?—put us together?

2.

I Never Thought of You.

I never thought of you.

For many, many years you
were away from me.

And for many, many years,

I never even thought of myself.

Then, one day, I was. Or were.

It was fuzzy, at best.

And that was not even my birth

Rather, my age

I got older by months

The world turned, the solar system spun

The system flew through the Milky Way

Turned and turned

I never thought of you.

You were not something to think about.

You were not impossible, but

far beyond my ken

Long before I thought

Love was complete

Long before I knew love of your kind

I had no idea of it.

Is knowing yourself

and then knowing others

and then feeling a panic

before you find love

a way through?

Or maybe love should be like the tide

I never thought of you.

You were not something to think about

You were brilliant, I know now, and studied away

You were thinking about other things

When we met, I thought nothing of you.

We had a conversation—

just like anyone could.

Any night, any reason.

You said something close to me;

handed me a diamond.

The spark in your eye, that night

The joy of your laugh

That diamond, that night

I cannot place it

And I wish I could, the

memory, the gem...

I know that it is the heart

that beats near our meeting.

I never thought of you

I do now.

Constantly.

3.

Wolf

Are you there are you there

Here I come

Are you okay be okay!

Well, that's okay I'll nuzzle you

Are you my pack? are you with me

I don't think you smell like my pack

I don't like you a lot

How do I know you're in my pack?

Well that smells all right

Where's my bestest buddy? He

smells good all right bestest smell!

He's all right; where is he?--

Hi! You're cute. Can I follow you

around—ouch!—okay

I wonder if rabbits around

I smell... I smell.. huuuuh

Hi! You're cute. Can I follow you

around—ouch!

But wait, I do smell blood

And also... my pack

I smell my bestest

There's a howl and they are gathering

What friends I have!

They let me gnaw at the bowels

I get some good thigh meat too

The blood tastes sweet to me

The iron taste I lap up with my tongue

Are you there are you there

Here I come

Are you okay be okay!

Well, that's okay I'll nuzzle you

4.

And If the Stars Get Boring

Having held you, I know

You've freed me.

with built-in software that keeps copying us over and over an dover andveroen and
ovvver

SHAP SERP

PERHAPS the power in that gathering herd

Is the ability to breathe and flex

And in doing so change slightly the Universe

in which we are utterly trapped ratpped...?

SPERHAP

Like the heart muscle in everyone, ever
Each heart comes and goes
like fruit on a biological vine
buds, grows, is consumed, buried, or rots
All of them
All of Us

Every heart ever

PERHAPS we could negotiate a way to share the world
Hearts on a wall, each one executed
We can't be such terrible copiesWe can't be such terrible copies
We can't terriblebe such copies
can'tcopiWe terriblebe such es!
such epiWe terribs!can'tcopiWe terrib

But like a heart muscle
Perhaps
We pulse and our inflections
Change everythingChange everythingCha
ChanChange everything
ge everythingnge every
Change everythingthing

Change everything

Or know

The stars made just you from nothing

I like you, Starstuff. Please carry on.

5.

The Photons of Our Smiles

Traveling at the speed of light

that bounced off of what I hadn't even seen yet

in that who knows light speed place

Your glance

Lit the space around us. And

Was the center of the party!

When we first met, our eyes locked

and there was light between

you and I

That shocked me

You were something else

There is us somewhere out

in the Universe—light running

The colors, the music, the warmth

When I first saw you...

I am sure the moment is preserved by the Universe

by photons of our smiles

Still traveling light years away from

Us, I hope, smiling at one another again

Today

Out there in the stars; forever.