

(the return of the beat)

in Homage

1 H																	2 He															
3 Li	4 Be											5 B	6 C	7 N	8 O	9 F	10 Ne															
11 Na	12 Mg											13 Al	14 Si	15 P	16 S	17 Cl	18 Ar															
19 K	20 Ca	21 Sc	22 Ti	23 V	24 Cr	25 Mn	26 Fe	27 Co	28 Ni	29 Cu	30 Zn	31 Ga	32 Ge	33 As	34 Se	35 Br	36 Kr															
37 Rb	38 Sr	39 Y	40 Zr	41 Nb	42 Mo	43 Tc	44 Ru	45 Rh	46 Pd	47 Ag	48 Cd	49 In	50 Sn	51 Sb	52 Te	53 I	54 Xe															
55 Cs	56 Ba		72 Hf	73 Ta	74 W	75 Re	76 Os	77 Ir	78 Pt	79 Au	80 Hg	81 Tl	82 Pb	83 Bi	84 Po	85 At	86 Rn															
87 Fr	88 Ra		104 Rf	105 Db	106 Sg	107 Bh	108 Hs	109 Mt	110 Ds	111 Rg	112 Cn	113 Uut	114 Uuq	115 Uup	116 Uuh	117 Uus	118 Uuo															
																		57 La	58 Ce	59 Pr	60 Nd	61 Pm	62 Sm	63 Eu	64 Gd	65 Tb	66 Dy	67 Ho	68 Er	69 Tm	70 Yb	71 Lu
																		89 Ac	90 Th	91 Pa	92 U	93 Np	94 Pu	95 Am	96 Cm	97 Bk	98 Cf	99 Es	100 Fm	101 Md	102 No	103 Lr



Janet Kuypers

4/18/13

BANGING
THE DRUMS

to the

Periodic Table
of Poetry

in a 7 min. live set with a beat
at the Loft at Fizz Bar (3220 N. Lincoln Ave. in Chicago)

Tin

#050, 2n

If I only had a brain

if I only had a brain

I'd get out from under
this bent tin roof
that covers me
as I sleep at night

tin metal sheets
keep the rain away
but the wind

but the wind

if I only had a brain

I wouldn't use
my old tin cup
to stand and face east
at Canal and Randolph
and ask for change

I wait for commuters
to cross the Chicago river
to get to their train

you see, I wait
at the other side
and the ones with the money
have to walk right by

that's when I rattle
my old tin cup
give them doe eyes
say "God bless"

but if I only had a brain
I wouldn't rattle
my tin cup
and ask for tin change
I'd get myself up

if I only had a brain

I'd have a lot of money
I'd eat at fancy restaurants
I'd wear the plastic bib

if I only had a brain
I wouldn't be poor
drinking
tin cans of Fanta
eating
soup from a tin can
living
on Tin pan alley

if I only had a brain

you might bend me
but I just won't break
'cause if I had a brain
then I'd be great

Iron in my Eyes

(#026, Fe)

You think I was joking.
You think I wanted this to happen.

But this is what it boils down to.
I can no longer respond.

After all I've been through,
I'd think you'd understand.

Come to me.
I dare you.
Open my eyelid.
Shine a light
right into my eye.

See if I respond.

I even heard
that someone said
I looked so pretty
in my hospital bed here,
wearing nice eye shadow.

I know I'm a dark girl,
but they had to be informed
that
that wasn't eye shadow, and
that I had two black eyes.

You see,
that's how the doctors know
I have a brain injury.
When the blood seeps
out from around my brain,
it collects
only in my eyelids.

Iron gives color to blood,
and coming through
from under my skin,
my blood-filled
Iron-rich
eyelids
must have been
a pleasant
mauve
hue.

You think I've got an Iron will,
and I do.
But at moments like these
I wonder
if I have cried Iron,
leaving it in my eyelids
for you to see.

They say your eyes
are windows to your soul.
And mine have been darkened.
Is it by you,
is it by the world,
is it by the hand I was dealt.

Is it all
fate.

All I know
is that mine have been darkened.
Even if it is by Iron.

Molybdenum

(#042, Mo)

I love this country.
We should protect our rights.

Gotta love
our military-
industrial
complex.

We gotta protect ourselves —

I'll use everything I can
to be the one on top.

I know I've used you,
but it was wartime,
you gotta understand.

You gave me speed,

You were light on your feet,
but stiff as a board.

When things got hot,
you stood up to anything.

and I liked flexing my muscles with you.

I know it was wartime,

but I would have
made a Japanese sword outa you,

if I coulda put you together right.

And I know, I know,
you say I need you
for all my amino acids

to keep my innerds running,

but I'm still on my war-kick here,

'cause when it's war time,
that's when I need you most.

People say that war's no good,

but I say
you're the meaning of life.

I love the U. S. of A.,

and with you by my side,
we can shove a boot up their ass —

it's the American way.

in Homage

Janet Kuypers

<http://www.janetkuypers.com>

<http://www.janetkuypers.com/kuypers/poems/periodic-table-of-poetry.htm>

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