

ROADSIDE



POETRY
**GREGORY
LIFFICK**

2014 CHAPBOOK
SCARS PUBLICATIONS

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

“Miss” featured on Dead Snakes blogspot.

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POP

Made
out
with a
piece
of paper.
Took its
virginity.
Had
a love
child
we called
Poem.
We
stayed
together
for
better or
verse.

SM

The
Einstein
example
of keeping
the
wardrobe
simple.
Don't
block
great
thoughts
dressing
like your
clothes
are a
bondage
suit.

EARTHLY

With his
nephew
in a
local
library.

A
magnet
to other
children,
like
drifting
comets
of energy,
drawn
into close
orbit
around
him.

Now a
planet
with
many young
moons.

HUBRIS

Big
words
too sure
of
their
wisdom.
The more
letters
in them
the less
they
mean.
Small
words
can
brag of
saying
deep
things
like man
and
love.

DISCHARGED

Lost
an arm
in
Iraq
and
couldn't
clap
for his
daughter
at her
school
play.
Waved
with
the limb
he had
left.
Tried to
whistle,
but only
feeble air
passed
also
wounded
lips.

BEST

The
t.v. set
lost
its
faculties
along
with her.
Half
her age,
but
only
as many
good
years
as a
pet.
If it
died
before her,
she
didn't
want to
adopt
a
flatscreen.

CHAMBER

The room
had a
high
ceiling,
as if
boredom
was a
spirit
that
needed
space
to leave
bodies
and rise
to the
light.
It could
look down
at the
audience
suffering
in
mortal coil
seats.

BALL

Would
play the
field,
but
there was
no grass,
greener
or
otherwise.

In the
high
desert
only
shrubs
and cactus,
which
didn't
connect
well with
the
sin of
envy.

PRAIRIE

Coin
stuck
in the
slot
of the
roadside
soda
machine.
An
angry
dance,
hoping
rain
will come
to wet
the dry
lips
of the
desert
stop.

TEASE

Writing
flirts
with words.
Sweet
nothings
lure
poems
away from
the
crowd.
Seduce
them
and
they
want
to stay
and
get busy.

SCHOOL

Spelled
his
last name
wrong
because
he couldn't
buy a
vowel.
Sounded
alright,
though,
like life
was
taking
role
with a
strange
accent.

VISION

Stained glass
window
eyes
on the
soul
of the
holy
man.
The light
of
heaven
filtered
to
and from
him
in many
dream coat
colors.

WRECKAGE

Weeds
grow up
around
pink,
front yard
flamingoes.
The
walls of
the
left behind
home
like old
skin
too long
in the
weather.
Have
to repair
the
credit
before
fixing
the house.

SUBTEXT

If
the picture
told a
story
in a
thousand
words,
he was
a poor
reader.
Only
made out
a
sentence
or two.
Some of
the
image
wasn't in
his
vocabulary.

MISS

Almost
too pretty
to
believe
in a
small
town.
The stork
had
overshot
by a
couple
of
counties.
Like D-Day,
had
to find
the spot
where the
order
of things
had meant
her
to land.

CYCLONE

Together
too long
for calm
to come
before
their storm.
Neither
had
a quiet
eye.
Twisting
wind
blowing
hard
at their
shelter.
Heart
and home
carried
away.

LIVE

Birds
of a
temporary
feather
sag the
city
power line.
Each
with
both feet
on,
in an
alternating
circuit.
Want
to hear
them
chirping,
not smell
them
cooking.

DIRECT

The
moment
wasn't
polite.
No need
to be.
It knew
what
it was
about.
Its
actions
spoke
louder
than any
words
of an
apology.

SCRAP

Albums
are
homes
we put
our
memories
away in.
Don't
visit
or
think
about them.
Figure
they're not
going
anywhere,
except
out of
sight
and out of
mind.

CULTURE

Cooking
smells
debating
around
the pool.
Border
disputes
on the
stairs.
The
laundry room
a
melting
pot.
A
rented by
the month
United
Nations.

ROADSIDE

GREGORY LIFFICK

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Magazines:

Children, Churches and Daddies (co-ed magazine), founded June 1993; Down in the Dirt, conceived 1994, founded 2000

Books:

Hope Chest in the Attic, the Window, Close Cover Before Striking, (Woman), Autumn Reason, Contents Under Pressure, the Average Guy's Guide (to Feminism), Changing Gears, the Key to Believing, Domestic Blisters, etc., Oveera, Exaro Versus, L'arte, The Other Side, the Boss Lady's Editorials (regular and 2005 Expanded Edition), Duality, Seeing Things Differently, Change/Rearrange, Death Comes in Threes, Moving Performances, Six Eleven, Life at Cafe Aloha, Creams, Rough Mixes, The Entropy Project, The Other Side (2006 Edition), Stop... Sing Your Life, The Beauty and the Destruction, co-ed v167.5 (Writing to Honor & Cherish, editor edition), Blisters & Burns (the Keyppers edition), S&M, co-ed v170.5 Distinguished Writing: editor edition, Living in Chaos, Silent Screams, Taking It All In, It All Comes Down, Rising to the Surface, Galapagos, Chapter 38 (v1, v2 & v3), *Philly: Literature for the Sooty and Elite (v1, v2 & part 1)*, a Wake-Up Call from Tradition, (recovery), Drunk Matter: the Mind of Janet Keyppers, Evolution, (tweet), Get Your Buzz On, Janet & Jean Together, po-em, Taking Poetry to the Streets, the Coo-Dixie Chi-towners Union, the Written Word, Dool, Prepare Her for This, Uncorrect, Living in a Big World, Pulled the Trigger, Venture to the Unknown, Janet Keyppers, Evolution, (she's) an Open Book, "40", Sexism and Other Stories, the Stories of Women, Prominent Pen (Keyppers edition), Elemental, the 2012 Databook, Prominent Tongue, Chaotic Elements, Fusion, Stability Stability Stab Stab Stab, a Picture's Worth 1,000 words (color art book and b&w art book), Life, in Color: Post-Apocalyptic, Burn Through Me, Under the Sea (photo book), Partially Hidden, Revealed, 100 Haikus, Give me the News, Let me See you Stripped, Part of my Pen, Hope Sexism Life & Death, Sky Hoisting, Writerrrr, when you Dream tonight, Infamous in our Prisms, Anais Nin: an Understanding of her Art, the Electronic Windmill, Changing Women, the Swan Road, the Significance of the Frontier, The Sivasvatara Unpunished, Harvest of Gems, the Little Book, Death in Midage, Moments to Mar!, In the Palace of Creation, R.L.P., Bob the Bumble Bee, Remnants and Shadows, I Saw This, He Drive, Thomas at Tea, Crashing Down Nineteenth, Blue Collar Ballet, apopem, In Your Heart the Apostrophe's Teardrop of God, the Adventurers of the Key to Believing Bear, Anais Nin: an Understanding of her Art (second printing), *Doctord Under / Charlo New man*, 12 Times 12 Equals Grass, a Marble Nude Pauline Borchese with a Marble Apple in her Marble Hand, Challenge of Night and Day and Chicago Poems, Lighten Up, Not Far From Here, Watershed, You Have Finally Wan, Avenue C, Suburban Rhythms, Doo Syndrome, the Dark Side of Love, The pill is a man's best friend, Angel's Syllable is Good because of Devil's Spine, Poems and Stories from the Blue Collar Book of the Dead, Cat People, Death of an Angel, Ghost, Science: A Curmudgeon's View, Ghost Dancers Leaping from a Tome, the 4-D Window, Open Wounds, Anime Junkie, Interestica, Gunther, Cats, Scream Cloud Island, When the World was Black and White, a Petal Under Pavement, The Holy See of CE, Book 15 "Thailand to Volcanoes, Lost in an Echo, I Was Charles Bronson's Secret Husband, Erasable Bond, Royal Dane's Death Some 'tis of This, Understood, Alaskan Shotgun, Champagne - Hot Water, How a Bullet Behaves, the Thing in the Lounges of WiggallWheel (I Came in Avantika), Postcards from Exile, the Five Stages of Mardeth, Stay in Formation, Shadowing, Other Footprints, the Girl Next Door and Other Poems, Major Arcana, Saphire & Swardart, Slate & Marrow, Blisters & Burns, Rinse & Repeat, Survive & Thrive, (not so) Warm & Fuzzy, Torture & Triumph, Oh, the Elements, Side A/Side B, Balance, Chooz Theory, Writing to Honour a Church, Distinguished Writing, Breaking Silence, Unlocking the Mysteries, the Book of Stars, We the Poets, Life on the Edge, Revealing of your Dirty Little Secrets, Decoy! Remains, Charred Remnants, Hope & Creation, Bending the Curve, Layers of Creation, Dark Matter, Survival of the Fittest, Crawling through the Dirt, Lying the Groundwork, Weathered, who, link in my blood, (bound) 4 editions), Enriched Poetry, co-ed Enriched Prose, Enriched with Dirt, An Open Book, Literary Town Hall (2 editions), Prominent Pen (2 editions), 1000 Words, the 2012 Literary Date Book, It Was All Preordained, Cultural Touchstone, the Mission (issue edition and chapbooks edition), Purpose, Falling, Cheap Thrills, After the Apocalypse 2013 date book, After the Apocalypse (poetry edition), After the Apocalypse (prose edition), Entanglement, Guilt by Association, don't forget it, don't listen, read, bare minimum, Poet as Sociopath, Drawing, Art is not Meant to be Touched, the Beaten Path, a New Pen, Need to Know Basis (extended edition), Need to Know Basis (reduced edition), Give What You Can, Down in the Dirt v084, Come Fly With Me, Clearing the Debris, Sectioned & Sequestered, Six Six Six, Skeletal Remains, Out of the Web, Don't Tread on Me, Lines of Intensity, Entering the Ice Age, When the World Settles, Into the White, Above the Surface, Life... from Nothing, the Line to Power, Fear the Forsaken, Down in the Felling, Make Place, Wake Up and Smell the Flowers, Unknown, Looking Beyond, Forever Bound, See the World Burn, Exploding on the Scene, America the Lost, Moving the Earth, Catch Five in the Trenches, Wisdom in Broken Heads, Autumn Apple, Up to Smoke, Symbols Manifest, No Return, Grounded, Perfectly Imperfect, Wrapping It Up, I Pull the Strings, a Link in the Chain, Shot out of a Cannon, am i really existin', Home at Last, invisible ink, a new era, Hald, Friction, Sea Drift, Spiraling, and Then We Moved, a Creative Journey, Approaching Front

Compact Discs:

Men's Favorite Verse the drama poets, Keyppers the Yeat (AMF Inclusive), Woods and Flowers the beauty & the desolation, The Second Aging Something is Sweating, The Second Aging Live in Alaska, Petrus & Keyppers Live at Cafe Aloha, Painless Orchestra Rough Mixes, Keyppers Seeing Things Differently, 50/20 Tick Tock, Keyppers Change Rearrange, Order From Chaos The Entropy Project, Keyppers Six One One, Keyppers Stop... Keyppers Masterful Performances mp3 CD, Keyppers Death Comes in Threes, Keyppers Changing Gears, Keyppers Dreams, Keyppers How Do I Get There?, Keyppers Controversial/Critical/Amid, the DMJ Art Connection the DMJ Art Connection, Keyppers Questions in a World Without Answers, Keyppers SIN, Keyppers W2D0 Roads (2 CD set), Men's Favorite Verse and the Second Aging These Troths, scattered artist's Singing Theory, Oh (audio CD), Life At The Cafe (3 CD set), the DMJ Art Connection Indian Film, the DMJ Art Connection Music Depression or Something, Classic Radio Classic Radio Week #1, Classic Radio Classic Radio Week #2, Classic Radio Classic Radio Week #3, Classic Radio Classic Radio Week #4, Classic Radio Classic Radio Week #5, Classic Radio the Graphic Collection Collection #01-05 (5 CD set) at (audio CD, 2 CD set), Classic Elements (2 CD set), Classic in Motion (2 CD set), CD/2D/Screencap to a Rich EP, #86, Lake and Hesperid, the Iranian Pen Ink, Keyppers the Beaten Path Poet And the Autumn Parties Five Features (4 CD set), produces the Evolution of Performance Art (3 CD set), Keyppers Live (14 CD set), the DMJ Art Connection the Things They Did to You (2 CD set), Keyppers Seeing a Psychiatric (3 CD set), Keyppers St. Paul's (2 CD set), Keyppers the 2009 Poetry Comes Show (3 CD set), Keyppers and the Homeland of South Africa Burn Through Me (2 CD set), Keyppers "40", Keyppers Sexism and Other Stories, Keyppers the Stories of Women (amazon.com release), Keyppers "Dubno Re" (4 CD set) Keyppers "Anam" (4 CD set), Keyppers "Lattin it Out", Keyppers "What We Need In Life" (CD single), Keyppers "Made Any Difference" (CD single), Keyppers/Archie/Ed "Across the Pond" (3 CD set).