

## **Bees vs. Flies**

Within this open bottle  
Every bee dies  
While charging towards light

but all flies survive  
And even thrive  
By fleeing into darkness

What  
What if the bottle rotates?

## **Light vs Shadow: A Recursive Poem**

### **I**

Was it the shadow?  
Was it the shadow beyond?  
Was it the shadow beyond the shadow?  
Still fell the thick night,  
When the heart blocked the light.

Yes, it is light!  
It is light within!  
It is light within light!  
Loud sweeps the morning glow,  
Where the mind has no shadow.

### **II**

if only there were still 10 suns hanging in the sky  
as in the ancient chinese mythological universe

if only all stars were close, close enough to us  
like millions of broken mirrors  
put back together around us

if, if only every light on earth were much brighter  
or, simply if our eyes were just a bit more insightful

there would be no shadows moving before or behind us  
there would be no darkness within or without our minds

### III

1. Do not be carried away with so much sunshine  
for shadow is right behind your feet
2. Do not be afraid of shadow in front of you  
for the sun is arising just behind your back
3. Stand still for a moment or two  
and you can tell shadow from light or vice versa
4. Keep walking in your chosen direction  
and you will find your way out of the shadows

### **You Are a Buddha**

As long as you can  
Go along, or  
Go alone  
With Karma

As long as you are ready  
To accept, or  
Give up  
Everything, anything

### **Gathas (4): Elixir for Insomnia**

Stop counting ants or elephants  
Stop twisting and turning on your bed  
But get your entire selfhood ready  
To receive, with all your tenderness  
The big blue dewdrop from heaven  
Letting it melt your brains into a stream  
Flow from your head to your toes

Slowly  
More slowly  
Most slowly  
As it cleanses, cooling down  
Melting your vertebral column  
One section at a time  
Until all you brain cells  
Become ready to evaporate  
Like the dews at the leaf tip  
Towards the morning sun

### **Century Eggs, China: A News Poem**

According to recent CNN iReporters, century eggs are one of the most challenging foods they have come across on their travels.

Often served with pickled ginger  
As a pungent appetizer  
Century eggs have been popular  
Among all adult Chinese  
For centuries and centuries  
Though to their children they taste  
More archaic, more rotten  
Than they actually sound

Having been preserved in clay  
For longer than an old season, these  
Devil-cooked black eggs are  
Readily welcome  
In my native country  
Where the older are always better  
Mixed black is more attractive than pure white  
Where what is ugly  
Eerie, stinking  
Can be cool, fresh  
And damned delicious

