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# Attempt, Contre-Temps:

## A Lesson Concerning Lyric Poetry,,,,,,\*.

i. attempts

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LYRIC POETRY

a break

with thought

dust mote

with all empirical experience of your world

dapple

LYRIC POETRY simple cry in the night only the night... written un-written

serene sister

LYRIC POETRY pure anticipation... outside all concrete forms of languages

a flinging of

outside the embodiment of printing... outside the outside and... inside...

luminous arms

LYRIC POETRY rare and more elusive...

dust lane interstellar

blue shifting to red

undeniable energy underneath above around ,[yet]

[noisemeaningless  
s ig nal

existence

Accretion Disk

(a

hateful

word)

LYRIC POETRY invisibility... without authority a l w a y s ...

holy black hole

LYRIC POETRY stops the smart in its tracks... logic baffles... cross-eyes scholars

cepheid

variable

LYRIC POETRY the simplicity of violence ... s i l e n c e ...

D

A

R

K

matter

LYRIC POETRY the human and the power to communicate profoundly incompatible--

LYRIC POETRY the inability to express I or hang-nail

[NOISEmeaninglessRANDOMchangesinradiation.....  
.obscurespecificvox]

LYRIC POETRY impossible for thought of the possible

LYRIC POETRY limits . . . .

elliptical galaxy(*milkword*)flattened word-sphere  
lacking features

LYRIC POETRY inconceivable... without the

is not what it is and can... not be identified with

what it is not... absent and can... not be found even in its own absence...

... supermassive black hole....

LYRIC POETRY for **now**

**REMNANT**

expanding

LYRIC POETRY decomposing... language... merging ruins....

Ne **B** u l a

ruin of the historical  
ruin of the rhetorical  
all

allegorical-----

ejected star shell  
dim brown dwarf  
black dwarf self-consumed.....

LYRIC POETRY repository of the...

orbital decay

body moving too slowly to sustain going going going round  
circles smaller and smaller and smaller ah bodies colliding

LYRIC POETRY a gaping... a shriveling

poem... poem... amorphous galaxy

lost: sacrificer lost witness lost victim

the poet... lost lose the reader meaning

desert of stars

radical loss yet witnessed

--wind--

night sky

super nova shock wave

lyric sacrifice... space and time come to an end

words squeezed to zero-size

exit the known

placing into abyss uneventfulness

everything lost in continuity

stars dying fighting gravity

(the most violent death)

convulsions

putting into the abyss / consciousness of the reader

the cosmos coming to end

matter falling out of the universe

simultaneous consciousness impossible loss / gain

atoms torn apart

identifications lost

LYRIC POETRY between ...

...gravity leaves a smile behind...

outside all human experience

pure question questions itself

c r y c r y

& the question...

c r y

[is there no art then? thou art]

dust: ice-coated rock particles

swelling sun  
red red giant  
shed your outer layers  
jets of radiation  
the atoms in my body

*the cry*  
*will never*  
*yield to our gaze*

light comes to us from distant objects: dots.....

originate!

cosmic Chrysalises

not space not time not emptiness not poem

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there here

here there senseless  
too tiny too hot too dense for our nostalgia

for cosmic bacchanalia

jumbled space garish colors .... yellow

LYRIC POETRY bereft void so complete  
utter wordless-ness.....

i love myself completely only when completely condemned: re-cognize myself

*l u m i n o s i t y*

necessity pits me against myself poet without necessity

*total energy output*

i condemn myself to love myself completely

so lose my discontinuous limited self

unlimited

*plasma idiom*  
fourth state of matter

limited knowledge caca caw caw consciousness

knowing the discontinuous \ the boundary lyricboundarylyricoftheboundary

nothing coming before

nothingness is never empty: lyric lyric

nothing materializes  
nothingness  
unstable condition

latent [lyric] energy

awaiting fluctuations in the vacuum

nothing comes before

i cannot be reached

you cannot be reached

alternate

lyric universes

our space-time is our own space-time

that's all

lyric cells

beyond star-gazing

E X

P O

NE

N T I A L

LYRIC POETRY violate the self-limit/re-cognize accord with self

continuity continuity continuity hold my discontinuous being UP

LYRIC POETRY self beyond limits of caca caw caw conscious contemplation

*simul a crum of death*

the impossible the impossible aspiring sacrifice

LYRIC POETRY caught always between death beyond the *simul a crum*

and caca caw caw consciousness of death--hitherside of the *simul a crum*

limit of the concept

unfull loss of the self; no gain *the impossible!*

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LYRIC POETRY intensity brutal release of all energy..?

interchangeable

singing songs of

matter energy

smear distinction

mutilating self lother

radiant energy: cool particle word

LYRIC POETRY ...force sacrifice the self--let the energy out

[up cruelty up injury up over those walls hurry up damn it or i'll cut off your balls...]

in-flict injury upon material

on a cooled cinder i live

blind to the slow fading glow of the song

--lyric word slash the homo-geneous

unleash the snarling hetero-geneous (poem no longer contained)

gestures gestures of violence all structures caw caw stability of the homo

womo/woma

hetero homo lesbo and all stable permutations: so here so there...

**brilliance vanished**

LYRIC POETRY excess DIFFERING elements a-flying

fragment matter

solitary

chickenshits:

lepton-lyric-

you multiquark-faced

all scared of the real: turn your backs from the force of reality's shock...

miss the charge--through your literature--of all that passes from objects: through to you...

LYRIC POETRY moments potential destruction discharge energy

[little neutral one]

forcing moments of time...two time at a time

LYRIC POETRY glimpse of limits face to face enduring opposition

LYRIC POETRY physical: force is always there

photons repel (me)

gluons bind(me)

bosons decay(me)

gravitons(whence)

static caca caw caw body compelled to change its speed: "you must change your life"

eros cannot store energy--release release and your body is changed you are acted upon

my heart opens with so much force: thrust into the celestial opening

surfaces of the body open open open

death and light illuminate

LYRIC POETRY raw energy always directed

what will cease

too much energy... inevitable

stealing the light, gravity

in each discontinuous being; makes for pressure on our own limits

hungry for ink

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come come spend spend unprofitably

beyond all expression

LYRIC POETRY glory or cata strophe

burning burning surplus energy: destruction unending conflict

*lyric lyric lyric*

*consisting not in itself*

*consisting not in purporting*

morals ideas

*consisting not* in style

*no integrity*

*less cinders less ashes less prelude*

*Oh particle short-lived spontaneously emerging out of nothingness*

*Oh fuzziness of uncertainty*

*Violating all conservation*

LYRIC POETRY outlet within confines of spaced page time...

sacrifice a-logic

caca caw caw reader a loss is initiated in you you your you

you will never fully recuperate it --fool yourself into a full-gainer

but you will caw caw ca ca re-cognize no-thing

LYRIC POETRY altogether....not...lost

unfinished

massive lengths

Magellanic clouds so close to this cinder streaming hydrogen trail

And the *lyric* lightly reaches the South Pole of the Milky Way  
with no respect for servile readers of literature

"at least literature is a steady state"

"please take me and freeze me into system"

"please make me fit your illusions of understanding"

"how to tame existence (a hateful word)"

"anti-intellectual, I see" "in the abstract or concretely?"

L y r i c P o e t r y we are cut off

"why not throw a bomb" "bombastically man dwells"

rant

"rhapsody wordless"

"fustian poematic"

(and yet there is a lyrical bulge,  
oh! large sphere of star-words,  
in the middle of all spiral galaxies)

still in the the apparent sphere  
("celestial sphere")  
of our limited earth sky  
literature--ordinary matter--clamors  
(resentful of the speed of cosmic rays)...

"i just got word--the gods have fled"

"i just got word--the gods are absent but men are not"

"i just got word--we speak in just and balanced words"

i just got word--men are diverse and disinherited and have no word

i just got word--word speaks man

L y r i c say it is something else

laughter laughter laughter

"according to the rules dead are the rules of death"

"inside outside the poem the rules died just there"

lyric poem unanswerable vexation can...not be asked

the space between the l y r i c and the lyric poem

cataclysm general

is there literary museum memorizing memoria

in-flection abolitionist

l y r i c p o e t r y its use prohibitive

"won't you ever finish finish finish finish finish finish"

"not yet completely incomplete" "fecklessly inadequate"

of thee i cry  
out of time  
out of mind  
alone i sing

the lyrical ghetto

seek no knowledge  
seek no be-coming  
you can..not suspend finitude

song  
reach unknowing  
sing  
failure to turn-in-on-your-self  
outward ever outward to the extreme  
intolerable anguish not knowing  
the song songs ecstasy's approach  
there! fleeing song  
the apatheia of  
a language unkeened

**THE COLD DARKness of space!**

**COLD DARKness orspace!**

**DARKness of space!**

**ness of space!**

**of space!  
space!**

ii. *contre-temps*

known to the unknown

words, in order to perish, are called

A shard of reading is all i have to offer

Magic Ka Ka... enchantment seizes

Tones: utterances of broken music with music.

contagion

*s t r a n g e   a n g u i s h*

laughter coming coming coming  
unspacing space, intervening interval, undeniable

Why are there lyric poems rather than nothing?

Carrying on the signal of a language beyond all language.

Hear-Hear! Language leaving, frail exile--

Cry!

Cry!

sea-waves unbroken light  
So long the laughter lasts      Destructive forces

the pyramid halting time over the obelisk

too helpless for death...too passive in passing...saying saying...

but speaking...s t r a n g e...dead already...voiceless voicing...

beat rhythm off-beat...

RHYTHM syllables of a verse re-verse calling out for each other

imposition on you and me the strangeness of lyric's captivation

pierce the eye free from all ideas

you

cannot assume the rhythms of the poem but they are now you

you are taken you may not consent you participate without wanting

the syllable enters you you enter unto it

you are not able to yea or nay

no what to assume you are without initiative freedom

carried you are away away

enshrouded  
a rain of sand  
falls upon your head  
deaf matter  
the milky way  
your tomb

which part of your representation are you?

are you a you--any longer?

pass on pass on passing to anonymity

you are rhythm's rhythm

sheer incantation: music: captivation

no consciousness magic only nearing

time fades  
starry silence

no unconsciousness

white dune

nearer and nearer magic--ing

no intuition



no instinct

no habit

light without light

rhythm: present

no image without music

useless image involving us

amongst amongst

pathetic waking dream

left  
in the shadows  
slipping away  
gone to nothing  
flash of fire  
dust incoming  
dry waves ablaze  
over your bones  
exhausted cry  
Lyre! Lyre! Lyre!

in *rhythm* you are not apart you are a part

inside out you are

ecstatic sphere

Vaporous throat  
Saliva and light  
Crying out  
Feelings of you  
Throes of orgasm  
My face is pure  
My **c r y** is **flayed**  
I stare into your darkness  
The sun burns my tongue  
Molten dust flows  
Into my emptiness  
Flow flow  
Lascivious  
Dust

## LYRIC POETRY

*l y r i c   p o e t r y*

denotionalized reality

sound sounds

unhinging all relationship

sounds sans objects

love  
breaking open  
the fever of the river  
entering our ruin  
legs striped with blood  
i long to die  
Oh instant  
sad endless rhythm  
**life must go on**  
*the cry must die!*

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whence resounding oh so impersonally

timbre! timbre!

listen to not apprehending

you took me out  
of nauseating lucidity  
with your waves of laughter  
with your orgasmic cries  
coming ever deeper into me

sound music music sound--together apart

deafening anguish  
the horror of the pining flesh  
absence of the body's warmth

LYRIC POETRY image musicality

my sluttering heart is perishing  
tied to a blue shatter of bones  
where the mad fever ends

no notion in sensation

come the image leave introspection

sensation not perception

in pale words  
a speck in the vast flow of the cosmos

yearning is tearing me apart  
yet i can still remember  
the violent space we shared  
where pungent flesh played  
in the wet death of our fuck  
foam splashed from your vulva  
in the immense silence of the night  
sounds of mouths lost  
wet thighs  
the stars sounding their obliteration  
still      **I**      Cry      Out

rhythm and

off-beat off the beat the time is not propitious

L y r i c a r h y t h m joy and suffering outside

all manifestation

all in all never to be constituted

voiceless...voicing...

MUSIC inopportune moment

*r h u t h m o s* no constancy

*a r h u t h m o s* persisting in my syntactic discontinuous

coming and going in all dimensions with no direction

a-dispersing I go

suspending without freeing

unresisting incomparable

LYRIC POETRY ahhhhhhh...come, at last, just there...ah!...

*Y O U are moving with it well*

The point is I am dead

The point is we fucked

Two points without obstacles

Anyone can do it

Music flashes

**L y r i c L y r i c!**

Love dwindles

A dead point

Still unlocatable in space or time

Oh pure nude instant

\* Delivered in Professor Maria Irene Ramalho's Seminar — The Lyric, at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, on 10 December, 1996