

SONGS : A QUARTET OF ERASURES

SOURCE TEXT

The concluding section of Walt Whitman's "Song of Myself" (1891-92 edition)

CONTRIBUTORS

Eric Del Giacco

Jim Morrison

Kendrick Prewitt

Taylor Prewitt

EDITED BY

Rebecca Resinski

ERIC DEL GIACCO

The spotted hawk swoops and holds me,

flings me to the vapor.

I depart, shake, drift,

Failing,

Missing,

Waiting for you.

JIM MORRISON

hawk

untranslatable

barbaric

vapor

drifts

bequeaths

blood

missing

searches

for you

KENDRICK PREWITT

The hawk swoops and accuses, he complains.
I am not tamed, I am untranslatable,
I sound my barbaric yawp.

The last scud holds,
It flings
It coaxes

I depart, I shake
I effuse and drift

I bequeath I love,
you want

You will hardly know
But I shall be
And filter and fibre

Failing

Missing

I stop

TAYLOR PREWITT

The last scud of day
flings my likeness on the shadow'd wilds,
to the vapor and the dusk.

the grass I love,

will

filter your blood.

I stop somewhere for you.

ABOUT THE PAMPHLET

In April 2017 I facilitated a session on poetry at the George Ackerman Reading Retreat of the Arkansas Chapter of the American College of Physicians. For two hours on a Sunday morning two dozen of us discussed some of the poems from *Heron Tree Four* and the *Found in the Public Domain* series. Our conversation concluded with each of us erasing the final passage of Walt Whitman's "Song of Myself," and four of those erasures are gathered here. I am grateful to all the participants at the retreat for their thoughtfulness, community, warm spirits, and willingness to experiment. – Rebecca Resinski

ABOUT THE CONTRIBUTORS

ERIC DEL GIACCO is an academic hospitalist at the Little Rock VA. His interests include early medieval history and the Venerable Bede.

JIM MORRISON primarily paints, abstractly, but occasionally writes short stories and vignettes, and even the odd poem.

KENDRICK PREWITT lives in Meridian, Mississippi, and is Chair of the Department of Languages and Literature at the University of West Alabama. Teaching and signing forms take up most of his energies, but he's pleased to take a swing at found poetry.

TAYLOR PREWITT is a retired cardiologist who majored in English at the University of Arkansas and studied poetry under Howard Carter. He and his son Kendrick have been involved in planning the George Ackerman Retreat, an annual joy.