Worn Out

Kelly Joe Phelps

Wonder flood the valley, tunnel feed the soil
Free advice with constant wit, never to recoil
Bums rush o'er the high grass field with shoes of plastic lace

That untie at the first step, not the last that wins the raceHerein lies my sure demise, 'haps my one bright seed

This or then the other tact falls right and starts to bleed

Can you hear a toneless rhyme between my bones and sunken eyes?

No, I think not, it's as if my thought has worn the clown's disguiseOh, my little life worn out on a goddamn road I live to breath more than believe, a reason for this loadIs it my own version of a terrifying leap across

An unforgiving landscape, when all I want is sleep?

Unfolding here before me is an ugly naked truth

I know no more than a drunkard in a circus dunk tank boothThe balls come flying, one, two, three, in and down

I go

People retch in laughter while I scream out for more
Now I'm dry electric shock, I watch the sky like a broken clock
I tie my plastic lace and then I go back to my walkStuttering for coffee or a comforting brush
Across the backs of both my knees, mother sings to hush
Make a castle to the sky in honor of a man like sand
Who'll wash away in time and he will ne'er be here againOh, my little life worn out on a goddamn road

I live to breath more than believe, a reason for this load

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