Piece By Piece

Kelly Joe Phelps

piece by lonely piece the mountainside tumbles away
back down to the river bottom lined with pocket worry stones
a hundred years in hand worn smooth by long grandmother nights
sitting by the rocking chair waiting for the worldoh, if I could roll back all the years and talk to my daddy's dad
about all the fears I'm leaving in that maybe he had had
I might get some light to shine down this dusty old dry well
hear the bucket hit the bottom and the rope come rolling bywhen three hundred years has been the time from
whence it came

why hadn't someone yet figured out to lower down the gun and shoot out the middle of this clawing, staring eye? hear the bucket hit the bottom and the rope come rolling by sitting by that old rocking chair waiting for the world

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