

Our Top Hats Blow Off While Yours Gets Tipped

by Darryl Price

Our world is a prism floating through its own rainbow smeared
shadows in a desperate
attempt to get caught. Our lives are in the carpets, the planks, the
winds. Whatever
has heard us, has not believed in us enough to rescue us from our
own
mythological nightmares. But that's just one story being told, one
bell being struck into strange being,
the rest is a cacophony of zinging meanings looking for an abrupt
answer. Even the answer
is not really the final truth. All this singing is just the latest wail
and moan
of the loveless. They want to be touched in such a way as to know
they are alive. Nothing else will matter. Their fingers are
searching for the right and only fingers.

You know that. But a hand cannot give what it does not hold.
Poets have
long ago made this clear in relation to the moon and her lust for
the
handsome sun. He will warm her but he will never love her. And
this is
her sorrow. It is her curse and her trial. She will burn at the stake
and the sun will not be the wiser. We will all go to war and
life will never be the same. If we are loved at all it will be
because we have failed. Someone has greeted us without ever
wanting us to be explained.

The prism has made us its fragile creatures of dancing light.
That's our true purpose.

To speak the unspoken. To live the words of our moment in utter
abandonment to
the sacred tongue of the unknowable universe. Like fauns. Like
asteroids. Like lotus flowers. Like
pebbles in a brook. We are meant to sustain the whole sky's
hunger for something
more pleasing than rain. It's an ancient play among ancient gods.
Our bones are being
tossed upon the mountains of time like tumbling dice. The Rolling
Stones must have caught
a whiff of some pretty strong smoking summits in their swirling
time to have revealed
that small wisdom. But the gleam in our eye is bigger than all that
nonsense.
Eventually taking in the whole scheme of things and creating
rabbits out of empty top hats.

Bonus poem:

The Professor Goes a Little Bonkers at the Chalkboard

by Darryl Price

Each second what do you want to be? How
do you get there? If you could give a
listened to message to the whole world what are
you going to say? I open my stupid mouth
and more poetry comes grinding out, even hello looks
like a spewed bunch of on the ground stirred-up
wildflowers. Well, they die. They eventually stink. So you've
got to wave them in a fresh way the

first time around and every time after that, and
then let them float away before anyone notices they're
already gone—just like good little angels. It does
no good to lament fallen, empty love. It will
return someplace else in a matter of minutes, even
if you make yourself a beautiful red splatter on
the green reality of the street where you live.
The only faithfulness in love is the gullible youngster
willing to disbelieve all things in favor of only

the one thing. It's easy to see why this
matters. No one else will shoulder that much weight
and still manage a sincere smile. I'm in love
with you. That's what they say, and they mean
it. But nothing can be frozen every day. It
has got to move forward. Any movement causes dancing which
causes

change which creates the air we breathe. No one
will hear anything we say here today because they
think only in negative terms. All the dot connectors are

more afraid of you than you are of them.
Love's free, pure or love is a lie, that's
all. Love never dies. People do that. So what
we've got to do is invent the moment before
it's over with and done, because then all you've

got for your trouble is a goddamn collection of empty shells in an ugly bathroom basket collecting dust-mites. Still we mustn't despair.

We're here together today and we are making a charge against the enemy with what little courage we can muster.

