

# Don Quixote Flash Cards (Being a small chapbook of poems)

by Darryl Price

tiny bits

each one found meant  
something had blown  
apart. that someone  
was no longer  
with us. but  
somewhere that things  
were crawling towards  
unity

again. another  
gun had been  
fired. would peace always  
start over?  
it's funny how  
it will. a hand  
attaches to  
a wrist. fingers

are flexed one  
by one as dreams are  
fashioned into  
hugging arms made  
for holding close  
those we still long  
to discover

like brand new stars.

### Sweeteners

They drop themselves right  
into the mix like  
parachuting seeds, only  
these pods they

spring from are the  
everyday open  
doors we all pass through on  
our way to and

from breaths. Ah, why call it  
anything else  
but ordinary, this miracle  
life?

### Toy Soldier

It was the only thing I found  
on the beach that day. There were  
no comrades. Nothing to show what had

happened to the rest of the gang.  
He was aimed and ready to fire  
but he was alone and his gun

was pointing at the water with a  
plastic steadfastness that forever froze its barrel  
into the eyes of the enemy like

a mirror mounted on a rock wall.  
I felt sorry for him so I  
took him home with me. Now he

guards the computer, some books and cds,  
with all the verve he has left  
in him. Even at night he remains

on duty, ever in uniform, waiting to  
fulfill his destiny, fire if needs be.  
The cat keeps an eye on him.

### The Dying Trees

took a long time  
to open their  
tight bark-encrusted  
eyes and when  
they did I was  
immediately  
struck with how  
deeply those orbs  
sank into mine.  
"We are already

saying all  
there is to say,"  
they whispered, leaves  
dropping at me  
like mounted tears.  
"Don't speak." I said,  
"I know you are  
in pain and I  
wish with all my

heart you were not."

### Loopholes

It all flows back, which  
doesn't necessarily mean goes black.  
You were made to disappear  
down a hole of your

own making. That's not to  
say the adventure's not worth  
the arm and a leg  
you'll be missing when it's

all over. Oh just think  
of the clever story you'll  
make inside the head of  
someone reading this right now.

