

Colin James poems

Some of these poems appeared in *Drunken Llama*, *Apparent Magnitude* and *Streetwrite*..

ROOMS BY THE HOUR

The slow, drooping unauthentic jaw.
Convulsions of apathy.
Is that you, Science Dog?
These hand grips will have
to substitute for relaxation.
Access is an excuse for departure.
Histrionics, curious emphatics.
Sold! To the inscrutably virulent.
Drama will not be necessary.
This way to the table of imperial white.
May the weary find solace.

NAKED MAN IN A COMA

Echoes in long hallways or a garage.
Windowless, doors aplenty.
The sound of footsteps approaching
from some distance or right here.
One of those chancy echoes
not what you would expect.
Lights are flickering dimmer and dimmer.
Peripheral vision once reliable,
now pale attendants attend at all sides.
Someone's romantic perception
like linen in the breeze of dying.

TOUGH KID DISPROPORTIONATELY AMAZING

I am in a bar somewhere, midmorning.
Not so unusual in my preoccupation.
The server is Asian. She is wearing a sari,
one of those slit leg jobs.
Classic Clark Gable.
I am in my middle sixties and unredeemable,
if I had a huge cock I'd lay it on the table.
She tries to get some coffee
and eggs down me.
When I wake up all my money
has been invested in Swedish Securities.
I need air, stroll with my honey arm in arm.
She speaks English in that annoying clipped tone.
We walk on arriving at a not very picaresque bridge,
barges of coal float in the oily water.

THE ORMAND FOGERTY SCHOOL OF PORNOGRAPHY

Your footwear may present a problem.
I think I understand your motive,
something to wear in town and city.
The power lines, the real power lines
run discordantly. There is no
truth like dishonest truth.
You need only stretch out
and all the plausibility is gone.
Perhaps you are thinking about
something else. I can't blame you.
Catastrophic, now there's a word.

NOBODY BLATANTLY

Slipped out the back door
where a white limousine was waiting.
The driver informed me
there was a very large thermos bottle
in the back seat of the limo that I
could urinate in should the need arise.
I found this information less than useful.
It would have been easier to put
a worry blanket around my shoulders,
but then things could have become too warm,
like the person who adheres to conformity
after years of feigning credulousness.

RECENT ATTEMPTS THAT MAY HAVE BEEN ADMINISTERED FLAGRANTLY

Just after that controversy
when Billy Tyler confirmed
his licentious passion,
the enthusiastic around here thinned by half
revealing an almost
indigenous species.
The rest of us departed
in our mini-vans and hybrids,
screaming as we ran the red lights of our own bias
for this indolent nostalgia.