

## ALL THOSE FACES

All those faces  
in the moonless night  
were as many as built the pyramids  
that died over the Alps  
who sank in ships in WWII  
that are lost in TV sand fandance  
carry the Easter Island faces  
into oblivion

All those faces  
living those nights  
out of Scheherazade  
they accused of blight  
the one's who were them  
as fantasies, dreams walking,  
madness of no faces and no cures  
whose shining outshined the stars,  
trees a solitude, cups were leaves,  
and ears were knots  
and scarecrows had fields  
the blighters sold off the farm land,  
and organizing by generations  
to barter greed  
for green, inventing  
any flamethrower into the coffin

All those faces  
Pessoa being so many and Whitman all,  
Dickinson so yellowstone,  
amber lit nightmares called  
the men in the white coats  
to catch the ghosts with faces  
that ran through the nation  
and the marble faces that refused  
to die or be naked, to be  
milkweed vessel along through meadow

All those faces  
chained to one another because  
his was stuck as one face  
and one face was his idea  
and his idea was the in-  
extricable nailed  
into the heart tomb

All those faces  
he screamed did not come from  
out of his steaming streaming brain  
they were real, he claimed  
realer than he was. At the end,  
his life, disabled into the sewer,  
where cages were built  
and each bar took a face,  
having as many faces as he had lives,  
and he lived a number of them

that he never would have conceived:  
between the bars freedom  
that destroyed the cage.

All those faces  
his life had the honeysuckle universe  
wafting through that held up earth  
inhaling generosity, exhaling gratitude  
with those faces until he was willing  
to give away his face, the imprint  
embraced in the universe -- the universe  
did what it always does, we call it "love,"  
though we've never been able to name it  
though we've never had the insight  
to bring it out into new passion,  
a way of being as the earth's generosity.