

Philip Byron Oakes

Making Change

Insights on outer limits of appearance as
if it weren't what but where it matters least,
to more the merrier a Christmas come
summer time. If it weren't meant as chance
offering to gracefully recede. Under
contortion to perform antics in the antique.
Planting cactus in swagger's blossom. A term
limit of visibility in the fog footing the bill,
paid with passing millstones in the life. Eyes
squandered peering inward, as it were in a
novel when the voices begin ceding wealth
to the music. Dressed for a promenade of
hands raised. The purchase of feet in the
slippage left dear John. Letting the purpose
do the serving. A loiter serving a hitch as
answer to the kerfuffle. Equating the
plangent with a music yet to be.

Ante

Concessions cleared for lift off kilter.
Viral cogs in a vow to scream. Theatrical
misgivings a good whupping cream, of
crisis borne as legacy tucked away at war.
Starting the ball rolling sissy fuss's way of
saying timber. Owning the weight of an
argument uphill. The return of a tickle
embalming words. Spreading light thinly
veiled in rifts, where rivers used to be
enough to take to the water for
redemption. The grating pride in humility.
A spin cycle of the incarnate.
Captions to the panache
holding stories to the
floor.

Next Street Over

Conciliatory handkerchieves waved in surrender to small town aerodynamics. A warren of loners cramped in steerage of drunken boat, afloat on dreams administered remotely by hands in the till break of morn. Solo flights in a crowd of recruits to the smell consoling victory. Warding off the convivial putting cold shoulders into it, unravelling elbows rubbed the wrong way home. Pants hitched upon a star. A new shirt to swallow a treasure chest of pangs, pooling in a steady beat of tom-toms to the emotive rhythms of here and far. Dubious and dutifully. Dwarfing the commonality of sense endeared as gesture made to last the live long day.

Diurnal

Rhythms the deliquescence blurs
in melding, trading the immediate
for the vicarious attenuated from
a vantage taken unawares.
Breaking bread into where it
comes and goes as both sustenance
and leverage, behooving the awkward
to gauge their strides rummaged from
the ruckus below. Leading grass to
growth in color and body electric.
Center mass infusing the
extraneous with relevance,
tickling nerves thought lost to
the struggle. Inferring a bond
to the sweet spot on the nucleus,
crunching numbers till they break
without bursting the bubble's
cohesion to the beat.