

NOTES ON POEMS

Oceanus Procellarum

This is the largest of the seas on the moon, the “Ocean of Storms.”

Beauty and Darkness

A Fibonacci poem. It follows the Fibonacci sequence, which is 0, 1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13, 21, 34 . . . A Fibonacci poem is usually six lines long, and the first line has one word, the second line has one word, the third line has two words, then 3, 5, 8.

206 Bones and the Landscape It Moves In

“A typical adult human skeleton consists of 206 bones (208 if the sternum is considered as three bones)”—Wikipedia

Lappin and Lapinova

This poem is based on a piece of art by Robin Richardson, which itself is based on a short story by Virginia Woolf.

Weathered Remains

A cross-reading poem. One reads the left column first, then the right column, and then from left to right. Any lines that appear centred are considered to be a part of both the left and right column, and should be read when one reads the left column, when one reads the right column, and across. Susan Manchester has an excellent one, titled “My Mother’s Voices” in *The Georgia Review*, XLVI, 1 (Spring 1992), page 28.

The Airships Take Us, Even As We Blow Out the Last Candle

The poem is in a form defined by Jim Simmerman. It follows his poetry writing exercise “Twenty Little Poetry Projects,” which can be found in the book titled *The Practice of Poetry* by Robin Behn and Chase Twichell.

Jimmy Durante used the phrase *Goodnight, Mrs. Calabash, wherever you are* to sign off his radio show in the 1940s.

Calvary: the hill near Jerusalem where Jesus was crucified.

1. an open-air representation of the crucifixion of Jesus
2. an experience of intense suffering

Hosanna: Middle English *osanna*, from Old English, from Late Latin, from Greek *hosanna*, from Hebrew *hoshi ah-nna*, pray, save (us)!—used as a cry of acclamation and adoration

Le gustaría acompañarnos al teatro?

Would you like to go with us to the theatre?

leh goos-tah-REE-ah ah-kohm-pah-NYAHR-nohs ahl teh-AH-troh?

<http://www.fodors.com/language//results.cfm?lid=1&cid=13>

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