

## Thirty thoughts

1. We can recognize when virtue has become poisonous, we name it "Duty."
2. When Honor Descends  
The will to respond is poisonous. "It is not your vulgarity which soils me, it is that I am too honorable not to respond in kind!"
3. A bad marriage may be an honorable thing. "I am too honorable not to keep my word, even when it has become a lie."
4. A bad marriage is a curse one puts on those they used to love, particularly themselves.
5. A restless prayer-- How restless one is who is lucky enough to forget he is weary!
6. Early joy  
The greatest joy belongs to one too restless to wait for the sun. Only he will be awake and watching. Only he will make it rise.
7. Life is heavy when we wait for it. Let us begin so we will be light, and life will have no weight for us!
8. A Ghost and some Tomatoes  
Everyone is made sick to see the sight of the ghost of the path not taken, the success we could have had but did not choose. The gracious among us know enough to be affirmed in what we are, those less gracious know only that they want to throw tomatoes.
9. Beware: One who is low casts no shadow, and may simply be stealthy.
10. The obsequious hide their shadows by stooping down at your feet. Only pride believes the truth condescends to crouch.
11. Music-- Hear the sound of my thousand broken souls in their burlap sack: Bells upon bells striking pain against ecstasy! To hear the ring, is to be wed.
12. From sickness to sunrise, creativity makes virtue of all things, even our "defects." So broad is the soul of man! May we now, finally be grateful?
13. War and creation redeem all aspects of the human possibility.
14. The best psychologist is just a lunatic who took notes.
15. To know what you are, is to see what must be changed. To know what you are is to know what will become you.
16. What is born of fire, but ash?
17. Tact is a liar who pretends she has no enemies.

18. An eagle's prayer: May I see, so I never return.
19. What is innocent is wise. Knowledge devours wisdom. Laughter makes knowledge wise.
20. To grow we must fire an arrow through the heart of our shadow. If we wait too long this is a painful and frightening moment, where we must remember who owns who. It is easy to forget a shadow has no weight when it appears so late in the day, so much larger than ourselves.
21. Only the discourteous answer honest questions with the truth.
22. No one makes worse company than an honest man.
23. Silence is the form of lying we call "restraint." Cowardice is undignified.
24. With so much pain in the world, the one who suffers most is the one who refuses their tears. Their happiness will wring them dry to exhaustion. Joy never refuses sorrow.
25. Oh what strange fountain of pleasure is pain once un-hid? How bright, how burnt orange and red is the sun? How deep is our bliss—how much anguish fills and fires the glowing coal of our happiness?
26. To tell someone the truth may be doing them a favor, although you may never hold their favor again.
27. Most people are only affirmed in the voice of another who is similarly afflicted.
28. We are affirmed in another with the same faults. Sympathy makes weakness content.
29. After you solve your own riddle it may be tempting to help another do the same. Be warned: To answer a riddle which does not want to be solved, is to discover you are hated.
30. Man is impotent.

Man created karma to punish the dead.  
Man created hell to torture the dead.  
Man created sin to torture the living.  
Man created justice to punish himself.

When man expects justice he is unjust to life and will always be disappointed in her. Life always comes to us naked and imperfect, just as she is.

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