## **Around the Block Poem**

Between a conveyer belt birth And a conveyer belt death You try to move forward With each conveyer belt breath

You raise conveyer belt families With conveyer belt schools Producing conveyer belt minds Who follow conveyer belt rules

With conveyer belt goals And conveyer belt chores And conveyer belt games And conveyer belt stores

With conveyer belt prizes And conveyer belt griefs And conveyer belt churches With conveyer belt beliefs

And conveyer belt niches And conveyer belt drinks When you feel out of order There's conveyer belt shrinks

With conveyer belt burgers And conveyer belt jobs You get your permissions From conveyer belt Bobs

With conveyer belt justice And conveyer belt news You praise or you blame The conveyer belt Jews

You drive in your autos To conveyer belt bars Then stare at the night sky At conveyer belt stars

With conveyer belt phrases And conveyer belt books And conveyer belt crazes And conveyer belt crooks

God may slow or hasten Conveyer belt speeds Some think that their praying Meets conveyer belt needs

God may be indifferent To your conveyer belt wants Though might pay attention To your uncles or aunts

Though God might be hostile Or not even exist You know all your transactions Will show up on some list

Conveyer belt workers And managers too And Big and Small Bosses Aren't there to please you

All work for a living To buy conveyer belt things Worlds not built for princes Princesses or kings

Conveyer belt smiles Conveyer belt smirks Conveyer belt jobs With conveyer belt perks

Conveyer belt cars Buses, wagons and vans Go to most destinations: Out in space there's tin cans

Conveyer belt farmers Conveyer belt factories Conveyer belt stores Who could ask for more?

Conveyer belt testing For minds bodies and souls To place all round and all square pegs In appropriate holes

Conveyer belt experts Observe conveyer belt folks To check every function Or their arts and their jokes

Conveyer belt doctors And scientists too Discover or tell you Those things you should do

Conveyer belt workdays Then conveyer belt clubs You dance to their music With conveyer belt drugs

Conveyer belt policemen Arrest you for such Conveyer belt judges Scream "you're just too much!"

Conveyer belt justice And then there's rehab Be careful you do not End up on some slab

Conveyer belt justice Well you try to grab A bit of compassion: Some end up in their lab

Conveyer belt contrition For conveyer belt crime For attitudes awful You will do some time

Conveyer belt prizes For conveyer belt work Which raises Joe Normal One step beyond "jerk"

Conveyer belt shrinks Assess conveyer belt flaws And why your poor sick brain Broke conveyer belt laws

You were too fast or too slow Or too dumb or smart Too sexy or sterile Or allergic to art

You were too mean or too nice Or too big or small Or just too damn "gifted" To deal with it all

You were too different from others Or too much the same Too squashed or rebellious To handle "The Game"

Too willful or passive You get the Idea? Its clear now that most lives Are just run by fear

One error and its over The boat has just sunk Its clear you were psycho Or schizo or drunk

Conveyer belt graphs And conveyer belt charts Are read best by experts With conveyer belt hearts

Conveyer belt essays And also advice: Will tell you each day What's deemed naughty or nice

Conveyer belt critics Conveyer belt plays Conveyer belt movies With straights bis and gays

Conveyer belt Indians And yes cowboys too: Without them what would we Poor sick dumb humans do

Conveyer belt poems Conveyer belt art You form your opinions To sound mean or smart

Conveyer belt problems Conveyer belt lies Conveyer belt answers Between someone's thighs

Conveyer belt sessions Conveyer belt fears Conveyer belt answers Between someone's ears

Between some soup kitchen And a five star hotel You hope for some moments Where they mean you well

Conveyer belt sex Conveyer belt love Yes, stand in the lines But don't push or shove

Conveyer belt taxis To conveyer belt planes, With conveyer belt losses And conveyer belt gains

Conveyer belt Parties Sell Political Cures: Go meet all the pundits Spin doctors and whores

Conveyer Belt Parties Market Political Cures Come meet all the geniuses Donors and bores

I guess there's some pleasures Amidst all the pain: You say one wrong sentence And spoil all their gain

Conveyer belt Marriage Conveyer belt Kids They will mope on some couch About all that you did

Conveyer belt Doctors Assess who's to blame: A question of fashion: Its not always the same

Sometimes its bad Mommies Sometimes its bad Dads Sometimes local Commies Or bad girls or bad lads

They must find a culprit Some factor to blame: Just fix that one small thing And then there's no pain!

You think a bit different? You act a bit odd? You believe or just cannot In angels, devils or God?

Committees will find out What's normal or healthy or not For conveyer belt Society Was there stuff we forgot?

Conveyer belt peacetime Conveyer belt wars But we cannot think much Beyond conveyer belt chores

Conveyer belt anthems For conveyer belt sports Then afterwards issues In conveyer belt courts

Conveyer belt births Conveyer belt deaths Ignore them or count up Conveyer belt breaths

Conveyer belt cribs Conveyer belt graves Conveyer belt funerals For have nots and haves

Conveyer belt newspapers Report what we want Or stuff that we can't bear Where's Immanuel Kant?

If you're never grouchy You're probably nuts Though I have no program: Just passion and guts

If you're always grouchy I really feel sad You'll end up in the lunchbox For some new fangled cad

Its best to be stupid Ugly fat thick and dull And blend into the woodwork Or melt in the hull

Its best to be boring And never stick out Among minds always snoring So they don't throw you out

Its best to be average Not whine or complain Or stir up those juices That make folks insane

Its best to be sneaky Undercover and sly Then pounce on your targets: You're damned jealous, that's why!

Its best to be stoic Just like your Mom or Dad Everything is just business Or it all ends up sad

Its best to like lynch mobs Known politely as "groups" Sit nicely like pigeons In your appropriate coups

Its best to be compliant And love the Machine Who cares if your bosses Are crazy biased or mean?

Its best to be crazy For quite few are sane In groups all are lazy And share every pain

If everyone's crazy All the people you know You can master each mountain All above and below

Its best to be crazy And then you fit in Folks love safety in Numbers And then they always win

Then forty years after You' re allowed to complain By revealing some key facts About the Normal Insane

Well forty years after If you do survive And the ugly sick and weak ones Die out in the hive

Yes forty years after You can write the Big Book And then they can beat up Each coward fiend or crook

You'll bask in your millions Among conveyer belt Haves And they are the Have-Nots Who dug their own graves

You'll bask in your billions Now that you're at the top But none of the madness That made you will stop

You'll bask in your trillions And no one understands Its always the same thing In all of our lands

Ah you once were human Your foes human too: You fought just like tigers And what could be new?

You once were all losers And now you all won And now all the losers Scan you with their gun

Conveyer belt wants Conveyer belt needs But heart is just human Sometimes it just bleeds

No one understands that Except maybe Mom Whether crazy or normal Or dizzy or calm

World's manipulations World's wants and world's needs The glories of nations: The heart only bleeds

Conveyer belt Policemen Come to clean up the "mess" Well, YES they did cause it But let's not obsess

Conveyer belt Teachers Debate boredom and stress Well, YES, they're usually culprits But let's not digress

Conveyer belt Judges Want Meanings or Facts Each one of them Fudges But they too paid a Tax

Conveyer belt Lawyers Find angles they like Well how does one "process" This goy or this kike?

Conveyer belt Friends Wait for their favorite parts Of what may be left Of your science or arts

Ah such lovely People At the scene of each vice Well all of them caused it But some pay the price

Ah such lovely People At the scene of each virtue All claiming credit or to credit Can what you know hurt you?

Its best to be small and ugly And bad, stupid petty and numb Hidden crooked manipulative and brutal With all folks under your thumb

Its best to seem handsome And smart, smiling cool savvy aware Generous good open and wealthy Great clothes, great possessions and always great hair

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The last two paragraphs of this poem Which may have deeply annoyed Or deeply confirmed your darkest fears Were simply elaborate and overplayed jokes I haven't truly been in "those places" in many many years

Relax, enjoy, love, hate, love/hate, hate/love
Whether or not you believe in Forces within below or above
Embrace or rebel against or defer to all your Muses
Sometimes the best of prizes go to the one or ones
Who seem quite crazy, disorganized in loud or silent pain
Or who work exceptionally hard but simply refuses
To ever really truly conform or what to be or be like anybody else
Which for most of us is far more difficult than it ever seems:
If waking have fun and humor; if sleeping sweet or interesting dreams

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## Editor's introduction to Paul Nachbar:

Paul Stuart Nachbar aka Paul the Poet, is a prolific and iconoclastic thinker whose work has appeared in a variety of publications. A musician, intellectual and author, his work pierces the veil of social convenience and human history, to reveal the result, which is often enough hidden in plain sight. Insight finds its purpose, when it sees, and does not look away, but instead, chooses to speak. You may contact Paul through the staff contact page at *Mind* magazine, or send email to: tossedintothepool@gmail.com