

Alec Soth's Archived Blog

April 20, 2007

Friday Poem

Filed under: [poetry](#) — alecsothblog @ 1:22 am

For *Title Week*, I've selected a poem by Elaine Equi. If you like the poem, check out more of Equi's work ([here](#), [here](#), [here](#), [here](#)). And read her essays about greeting cards [here](#), artistic ambition [here](#), and being an 'American' poet [here](#).

Table of Contents for an Imaginary Book

By Elaine Equi

Spree

Monster Gardens

Up Close, Out Back, Down Under

Flying Backward

The Drunken Voluptuary Workers in the Solarium

Dove Sighting

All the Yellow in the World

A Curse I Put on Myself

Three Sides of the Same Coin

Aria

Night Cream

Good Luck With Your Chaos

The Glass Stagecoach

In the Country of Mauve

Parrots and Dictators

Slumming

Walking the Evening Back Home

A Twelve Course Dinner of Regret

The Gap Gatherer

Burning Down the Ocean

Multiple Choice

7 Comments

1. I like this poem, I like this blog

Comment by [carlo](#) — April 20, 2007 @ [9:11 am](#)

2. [...] 135. Alec Soth's "Friday Poem" today was an intriguing one titled "Table of Contents for an Imaginary Book" by the poet Elaine Equi. It spoke to me in a lot of ways, but I found it particularly interesting to think about the poem as a designer. Soth has a few more links to Elaine Equi's work online, but I also really enjoyed these poems about "objects," or maybe the ideas or descriptions of objects. Equi's poem about "Wittgenstein's Colors" seems to catalog some of the lovely observations Wittgenstein made at the end of his life. More about Equi in this week's NYT Book Review. [...]

Pingback by [Lined & Unlined » Blog Archive » Reading 135](#) — April 20, 2007 @ [5:16 pm](#)

3. My favorite title is "A Twelve Course Dinner of Regret."

Saying it aloud is very satisfying.

Comment by [Dane Deasy](#) — April 20, 2007 @ [6:02 pm](#)

4. yeah, it's great...somehow you see pictures and create the book in your mind...really nice...

Comment by [CHRISCHA](#) — April 20, 2007 @ [7:47 pm](#)

5. this is super : SUPER thank u Alec Soth

Comment by [robert](#) — April 22, 2007 @ [4:32 am](#)

6. *Parrots and Dictators*

this one stood out for me. also, Monster Gardens.

Comment by [charley](#) — April 22, 2007 @ [7:48 pm](#)

7. melville dedicates a chunk of moby dick to the terror inherent in a whale with a name. ursula le guin pens a story ('she unnames them') where eve undoes all of adam's hard work. t.s. eliot writes a poem titled 'the naming of cats.' just to name a few.

there's never been a shortage of writers, writing about titles.

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i've never been here before but this is an absolutely terrific blog.

Comment by [david](#) — April 23, 2007 @ [7:58 pm](#)