

Alec Soth's Archived Blog

February 23, 2007

Friday Poem

Filed under: [poetry](#) — alecsothblog @ 12:06 am

[Christian](#) is mocking my skirt adjustments, [Eric](#) is frustrated by the lack of unbridled purity in my fashion photography, and today [Sarah](#) told me that she never looks at the blog because all I do is copy poems. So, dear friends, this one is for you:

Dear friend, whoever you are, take this kiss,
I give it especially to you—Do not forget me;
I feel like one who has done work for the day, to retire awhile;
I receive now again of my many translations—from my avataras ascending—while others
doubtless await me;
An unknown sphere, more real than I dream'd, more direct, darts awakening rays
about me—So long!
Remember my words—I may again return,
I love you—I depart from materials;
I am as one disembodied, triumphant, dead.

-- from ***So Long***, by Walt Whitman

6 Comments

1. Is there a law that all Minnesotans have to wear enormous anoraks?

And fuggedabout fashion shoots, when are we going to hear the lowdown about the Cat Power shoot?

Comment by [guybatey](#) — February 23, 2007 @ [3:14 am](#)

2. Dear Alec, you've done your work;
Retire awhile to Minnesota—So long!
You are not dead, not disembodied;
Only triumphant.

— Great to see you today, Christian

Comment by [Christian](#) — February 23, 2007 @ [3:33 am](#)

3. Damn it, Guy. You swiped the first comment from me. What the hell are you doing up at 3:14 am?!

I can't sleep...

Comment by [Christian](#) — February 23, 2007 @ [3:36 am](#)

4. 8.40 am here in London, blue sky, mild. Where's winter gone?

Comment by [guybatey](#) — February 23, 2007 @ [3:40 am](#)

5. you'll be back. you know you can't resist this sweet sweet canday.

Comment by [aizan](#) — February 23, 2007 @ [9:28 pm](#)

6. you're quitting? i just found this place.

Comment by [charley](#) — February 23, 2007 @ [10:58 pm](#)