

$$E.E. = (mc^2)^2 + 6 \{\{six\}\} = 1+1+1+1+1+1$$

By Mark Young

WHY I LIKE IT: *Poetry Editor HEZEKIAH writes... In "Honor is an elastic concept for a gaijin," she said, 'Young is a slasher poet (you know like the movies) who prefers to punctuate with oblique lines. I am the editor. I am the one who gets to slash the lines. Who knows what a "gaijin" is? Raise your hands. "a / certain amount of waste // Keatswith / less toxicity /" "Before we watched the / anime / we read the whole / of Beowulf together." Next, I just love the implied psychology and inferences that can be drawn from 'Matryoshka' dolls. Mark hits them on the head: "Something small / enlarged, a mythology / of self-inflation. Pull / it apart. Deconstruction / notdemolition..." 'E.E. = (mc²)²' has extra 'E' and a second exponent, it's too much math for me, but oh the alliteration and such assonance: "guzzles / his fourth / cup / of tea." You've got the taste. With a lick and a promise I can only urge you to read Young's work. It is replete with loose riveting design. While I've never attempted a match-making of Poets, I'm reaching out now: Mark! You got to read Josh Martin's entry in this issue and insist he reads yours...you guys are two pods in a pea...(To maintain poet's spacing each poem is on it's own page. Please scroll down.)HS*

E.E.= (mc²)²

unJust
string. the
whirl is mud-
dled. in Brussels
the brittle-
brained Walloon man
bristles par ennui

an inedible hum
coming from car pools &
patisseries & it's
spiraling

when the word is pedal-powerful
the spare
hole poltroon man stifles
foreign vi-
ands battered asphodels rum shandies

firm-top scones & jam donuts &

i'm
starving
as
the

goal-focused

sarariMan guzzles

his fourth

of tea cup

"Honor is an elastic concept for a *gaijin*," she said

Supposedly / had her cell
phone hacked / & some pictures
she had taken of herself were stolen.

This is about the profession /
gray thunder like a knife / spilt
chemicals / quick & acidic / a
certain amount of waste /
Keats with / less toxicity /
the scribe / a stylish new
costume & a / strand of
opalescent / pink / seed
pearls / new algorithms /
operated in a / deterministic
manner / three women &
sympathetic imagination / are
needed / the / legend much
like Russian / broken glass /
listen in on police frequencies.

Before we watched the
anime / we read the whole
of *Beowulf* together.

Took ages, but Japanese
education is / very strict
& somewhat old fashioned.

Matryoshka

Something small
enlarged, a mythology
of self-inflation. Pull
it apart. Deconstruction
not demolition. Do
it carefully. Shuck
& stack the exo-
skins. Find inside
building blocks so light
they float, an occasional
balloon. Under
the spotlight, the spotlight
is replaced by candle-
flame.

The Advantages of Cable

In the
middle of the day
I watch Kurosawa's
Ran. Sometimes
the chance
encounter
promotes a
poem. Some times
it is its own poem.

Revival Meeting

The scattering phase
shifts, then changes in

the electron's canonical
momentum — even for

Heidegger authentic death
with its funky retro feel &

bold designs was a reprieve
from the pre-schismatic

Orthodox worship of the
ancient Christian west.

Papal Bull

Turned off the highway, only to find 28 kilometers of dirt road ahead of him. Pulled to the side to think about what to do. Recalled what the late Pope did on arrival in a new country. So, got out of the car, bent down to the road & sealed it with a kiss.

From the Pound *Cantos*: CENTO XXVII

Unwept, unwrapped in sepulchre,
pitiful spirit. Pallor upon me, cried
to my men for more beasts, beasts
like shadows in glass. Moves, yes
she moves like a goddess, & doom
goes with her in walking. The gulls
broad out their wings, bend out
their wing-joints, fearing no cat of

the wood. I have seen what I have
seen. Evil & further evil. The tower
like a one-eyed great goose. Coral
face under wave-tinge, black snout
of a porpoise. The back-swell now
smooth amongst the rudder chains.

THE POET SPEAKS: *I believe in letting poems shape themselves. Which means that there will be a variety of styles across contiguous poems. The selection here bears testament to that. Some are produced by the use of what I call a stochastic process — starting by entering a search phrase in Google, then taking a phrase from one of the results & entering that & following that through until there's enough material to make a poem from. One is a re-writing of an E. E. Cumming poem; another is the description of a moment in time; & yet another is a humorous take on another moment in time.*

AUTHOR BIO: Mark Young's most recent books are *The Toast*, from Luna Bisonte Prods, & *The Sasquatch Walks Among Us*, from Sandy Press. *Songs to Come for the Salamander*, Poems 2013-2021, selected & introduced by Thomas Fink, will be co-published in October by Meritage Press & Sandy Press.