## **Poetry Series**

# Lucas Akkadian - poems -

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# Lucas Akkadian(January 23,1990)

I try to walk the borders of introspection and social commentary, to strike the emotional root note of whatever idea that I'm trying to express, trusting that the reader will better connect with the truth in it on their own terms.

## A Harlequin Romance

We steal away into the night and pretend that we're immortal Breathing life into this tragedy

I'll be your Kurt like you're my Courtney and we'll live life like it's novel To bleed this love exquisitely

And when we feel it's said and done we'll step into the light to make believe we moved the planets to die a little closer to the sun

## Acid Bath Of The Impervious Armor

My ionic alleyways corrode, adorning sordid fantasies, as the annals of time combust to paint the sand with marrow,

But still this morose vision lingers like the longest winter day, of the impunity of shadows and the vastness of eternity.

### An Echo Of Silence

Like so many other nights I tried to close that bedroom door with care and fall away to my own world But that night you were there.

I'd closed the door, turned out the light, and you came in like fire aflight, with eyes brimming with dark delightat the sight of me sitting there.

My molten arms quaked, gripped the sheet like angel hair as your knobby fists dispensed a will to wither my spine.

At daybreak I was off to school with a backpack full of clothes expecting the day would last forever But by lunchtime she was there, to take me home.

## **Bereaving Turmoil**

I reach inside this shadow to be swallowed by sunken memories and descend on unsought stairways to rooms I'd never see when fettered in the stitches of my world.

They house those abandoned and left without form, that are imprisoned by the keepers of the fantasy and wishing for repreive just as I.

And I surmise that denial is better left to those who'll yeild to everything.

## **Bleeding The Illusion**

I rose from a wasted sleep with Neitzschean hymns still echoing as if they'd been my lullabies

And it would seem the clouds that so amiably had dimmed vapid rays Are rallied in a front behind my back.

And bitter memories like tombstones stand so cold and silent;
A laryngectimized living still life, or mute caricature of a history doomed to repeat forever.

#### **Blind Casket**

Take down my cold metal stepping chair On which I nurse from my natal depression I am hanging somewhere already Losing my rosy warmth and shine As this dark day repeats forever in my mind. Alone I watch and don't cast a shadow, A ghost composed of frantic thoughts, But when the bottom of the bottom drops out I'll be here and nowhere, chaotic and placid And the knot will sway as if I'd just-Disappeared. I've been nursing from the absence for too long, Growing up too fast. Digging quicker and harder relentlessly To rebury leftover chunks of my world in cryptic messages I need a change of pace

But to slow myself down I don't have the kind of mass it takes.

I've left too much behind in the places where I clent and shit a

I've left too much behind in the places where I slept and shit, and prayed

And now by small light I wonder how I ended up here.

Where these scars remind me of what I once was, before I lit up the inside of my box and decided, that the truth was a more comfortable casket.

# Blue Deluge

I clasp my pride with both hands tight-Behind a cracking mask of composure, As scanning ultraviolet eyes expose My soul for what it truly is.

### Bulldozer Vs. Garden

Through another tragic sunrise Inside this perfect wasteland where I have come to believe the mother starves the meak

I faced the coming end, feigning wisdom with holy rituals, that anesthetize the weak, and sat alone awaiting sunrise In this forsaken city.

And I've come to believe that when the breath of heaven gently sweeps down from the stars to slowly freeze I won't feel, but know That to end is just to start again and rise up like a phoenix in the night.

#### Chiasmata

My hand falls to the covers; releasing my cell phone as it chimes a busy signal. With new reserve she slips away and back into her shell, as soft light swells from down the stairs, to hover on the walls.

'It happened years ago' she groans, 'but that's not what I meant'. I sway and give a tired glance to defuse her right to escalate.

Twilight's ocher rays creep through a dusty window pane to cast their defiant shadows.

'We're almost out you know.'she explains with a sigh, and slips a black hoody over her breasts.

'Well maybe it's not a stipulation'
I offer with an unassuming gaze.
'You know what? ' her voice raises,
'You try to analyze every damn thing:
when will you learn to just...'.
'I have other mysteries' I start.
'well, I don't suppose any of them
were chronicled on the pages you
ripped out right before my eyes'.

She fumes in silence, giving me the floor.

'What about you: what have you really shown me, but a box of Hallmarks and little porcelain figures?'

From the phone, the operator's prerecorded error message interjects. I pick it up to hit end, as the sound of her heels trails off over hard wood.

The front door slams, and the operator lingers in silence.

## Cliche Love Poem

These nights are cold and the days are a haze As seconds drift by like exhales of the sleeping

I've slain all the dogs at my door and won the price of silence but the walls still breath a soft cadence to carry me off into limbo

Since I've been alone You're just another ghost in my house.

## Finger Prints On Minute-Film

With that ephemeral tragic talk show stare, to cut through your most elaborate mask of martyrdom, you dissect my vivid colorscheme as you would a photographed still-life, to destroy all of the negatives, As if all that we've become was inevitable, But you were the one that painted us grey, And true martyrs don't pass the blame.

## Ghost In The Rising Sun

We'd once stood in darkening corners of out crumbling house and quenched the cracked floor with soft summer words that seemed to silently creep out and explode on the floor like tiny crystal bombs of cold hard hail

With your contagious mental armor you seemed to parody a holy roman knight in breastplate and fingered iron gauntlets sharply prodding a hardening heretic who refused to speak out

I was a nihilist and didn't believe in justified conflict for fear of annihilation

But I was going to burn eternally and didn't care to hear why as your blunt words of pleading parental reason seemed only to sharpen my deliberate indecision like spires of a city wall climbing endlessly

And then time lapsed as
the earth turned away and
the sun came around again
and eager spider webs jumped
open in double time like medieval
road signs pointing to the cemeteries
of medieval churches

And I find myself comfortably

numb at angst ridden seventeen a silent priest of mental anarchy reading Nietzsche on a stolen laptop screen and desperately scrawling down further plots of mental erosion on zig-zags and mirrors too small for complete reflections of me

Still yearning for something to emulate the bliss you'd claimed was shared by all pious travelers on the very path to salvation that has taken you this long to explain to me.

#### Given

Lay me down where we feared to tread. I know you heard every word I said. Whispers scream in a memory, ever as dear as ever dear.

This blood stained shirt; the red spot on my chest is only an obscured fable Like saying we'd never get too close.

#### Intermission...

It's Thursday morning, pouring rain and all the shops are closed. This quiet city's under a tornado warning, and a little coffee shop on the corner was the only place I could find that offered a break from the chaos.

In more than one way this place may have literally saved my life.

The air was almost as vacant as a church on monday morning, and I imagined I'd missed bohemian night by a single fraying thread. But I took my cup of black hazelnut and stole away to the loft.

So now I'm alone in a nook of this place so obscure and looking down on all the silence as some skinny girl at the bar, with flowing black hair and a lip ring makes small talk with the male barista.

I'm trying to focus on scrawling down some self important introspection on rough grained paper knapkins, but all I can think about is the rain outside the window and how it reminds me of the rainy day when I kissed Lilly on the waterlogged paint chips of a peeling bench and held her close by the waistband of her jeans behind the church and she told me she didn't like her eyes and all I wanted to do was collapse into her humid hair and savor the scent of her skin.

I just can't figure out why on rainy days like these I just keep falling back into her hair and straight back into that solitary moment Like a curse that only she can break.

And it makes me wonder, if maybe we're all just trapped by our most perfect moments, unable to move on, or to engage in life completely. just biding our time until the next moment comes when we can feel alive again, be it through death, or shining revival. If we're all just biding our time, to find it never comes.

## Lady In The Water

Solemnly I discorded to meddle in the cogs of grace, Driving faster out of hope to be saved as angels resisted and devils gained.

And she slid in through a sliver of light through the open door, and I thought she was a harbinger of tragedy or inexorable end,

but she just smiled that crooked smile and spoke-'despair not, but penetrate the night'.

## Mire

There is only one thing worse than a burning question, and that is having nothing at all to think about.

Emptiness crawls on its belly and into your head like a sideshow. It doesn't care who you are or what greatness you've done. It's the only force capable of true destruction, and It's you.

## Old Man By The Window

Sitting here in my rocking chair
It seems not getting anywhere.
With burnt specks on my fingertipsand singed ends in my hair.
While the bold facade moves,
I sit and barter with the fare.

To count my coups I've hung my etats Up to dust behind the door, As silence weeps for moments used that are laid to rest worn bare. But still I fathom the ends of earth, And stir these inner waters.

So with static ringing in my ears, And my awkward arms embracing air, I'll wait for the red dusk to burn out and undermine my stare.

#### Penance Of The Undead

By Luke VanderPol

The animate corpses hunt for clemency
Down wintry streets so wearily,
a clattering vessel as empty
as a child granted his fantasy
Cast in resilient cloth, though naked
marching to a sound arrhythmic and fleeting
the ominous sound of their single heart beating
to call out their ubiquitous time
as madly as a solitary mind
and this jaded creation, poised
with it's own shiny gun
cocked to fluttering heart
will pass into void
as swiftly as it came
to surely beg for absolution.

## **Phoenix Of Winter**

Like an insatiable fly in a slipstream of gratuitous decayyou stared into the sun, perchance to lose sight of your scars, or to better color me by numberin that monochrome scale that men have used paint the stars.

But I could not go blind with you and I could not be your eyes.
So like a listless satellite in the vacuum of space
I will drift unadorned with a centripetal pull in my veinsto move onand carry this light.

#### **Ratio**

Tires,
Night;
Not a phrase.
White and yellow lines,
spiral out and away from words,
but there is no escaping human fear.

Her brother,
And his wife,
Sleep beside the fireplace,
And that old and dusty house still stands in defiance.
'Why'd I have to fall in love...'
'...Wish I wasn't me.'
'I'll tell them all,
Someday.'

## Reign Of The Night Hag

They inhale, And exhale, Watching, in vicariousnesslike robots in the garden, Nodding off to nowhere. And every last weight falls away as the contagious deterioration snowballs. They breath in their synthetic eucharist, resigning all their abilities to be anything more than conscious, As prosthetic awareness beams in through the looking glass, hitching rides on transclucent trails between families wired to living room furniture sets And out into the bowing streets, To feed a dumb ecstacy of blaring commercial euphoria. And while dreamers wade fervently, through the sludge of a superimposed dreamscape. Agoraphobic shells sit to atrophy, making lines in front of the t.v.

## Silo Of Disrepair

I am suspended amidst the chaotic disassembling of paraplegic machines Terminally doomed and forever withering into stone.

Life in rewind,
Spinning fast into a coffin coccoon
As thick webs wrap around this
Casket of impurities.

Just hanging by the thread of Death in slow motion.

With shadows nipping at my heels, But sinister smiles holding down the cynic in me, like the patient Grains of lead floating in molecules of water Waiting to sink.

## **Snapshot Of An Orchid**

by Luke VanDerPol

You stretch up to the sky

to reach out for it's light

And all your dreams fade out

into the atmosphere

Like potential without time-

like an essence without life.

Though a myriad of changes wound

and flecks on fragile petals mar,

an emptiness can't befall it

if the ruined perseveres,

but the whisper of eternity is lost

to one that's waiting for the end.

## **Snow Angels Of Narcissus**

Our tethers fell dismantled Into the withering sun To leave me breathing in the smoke.

As you turned the changes moved A cadence all their own.

It's memory stole up my resolve: Retreating out of solace to be Disenchanted like a waking dream, Into an image of your lips.

Swiftly, softly, into the dark, Everyone leaves eventually... "And yes", she pressed "even you".

#### **Velvet And Porcelain**

I let you take the wheel with my wreckage to escape, to drive us fast so I could feel on icey roads, like Heroin.

And surreal it was to see that our faces never flushed, to break our semblance of cool sleep as we faced the end in fatal trust.

Across that bridge we careened together to crash like porcelain And now I lay beside you, torn among your scattered shape. But I feel this dream must have been yours, because I've never been afraid to break.