

firsts after finality

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Author's Note: Anterograde amnesia refers to a rare, typically temporary psychological condition in which the affected individual cannot properly consolidate new memories, often entailing issues with retaining future experiences and information. Head injury is one leading cause, and there is no readily available "cure."

it wasn't long until a flower
was really just a hymn to include
in the next bouquet to arrange
into a two by two square vase
in a fragrant invocation of either
apology or affection

and the walks eventually
wouldn't end up anywhere except
somewhere we had been once
resembling those trampoline games
where one would get up and chase
the others mocking the blindness

but the new day honors bodies
divided by a distance feigned
for ease of each once formed
only by the name of the other
and in form they revisit what
may have malfunctioned by fate

and the messages inevitably
wouldn't end up delivering
not unknowingly now that
new names enter silly hats
teachers held once and shimmied until
randomness had been reinforced

but the summer intends heat
purely by its temperament
and that too is tainted by fact
that this wasn't chosen and
this couldn't mean anything
novel for the place of this person

and the smiles so sweetly
creep upwards into a comparison
between their owners and the one
beholder i had sparingly let
let me bumble so blindly
let me pick from the hat for ideas

but the brilliance tends to me
begs that i hurry to prove i have it
pick a flower for its intricacy
let it waver alone in a gale and
whether it remains after or wafts
windward will be of no mind

and the things recalled will
be entirely such beseeching
toward what was before this
absolution i declare as june
as i cast the petals farther
than i would've ever gone with you