ASYLUM'S

Charles Bernstein

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rooms, suites of rooms, buildings, plants

in line. Their encompassing or total character

intercourse with the outside and to departure

such as locked doors, high walls, barbed wire, cliffs, water, forests, moors

conflicts, discreditings, failures

of assimilation. If cultural change

the outside. Thus, if the inmates stay

victory. They create and sustain

a particular kind of tension

dangers to it, with the welfare

jails, penitentiaries, P.O.W. camps, concentration camps

some worklike task and justifying themselves

army barracks, ships, boarding schools, work camps, colonial compounds, large mansions

abbeys, convents

starting point. By anchoring

them; what is distinctive

attributes. In speaking

outside world. Each grouping

bitter, secretive, untrustworthy

condescending, high handed, and mean

superior and righteous

inferior, weak, blameworthy and guilty

Even talk across the boundaries may he conducted in a special tone of voice

swamped. On ward 30

unless Dr. Baker himself asked for them

persevering, nagging, delusional group - -

"worry warts" "nuisances" "bird dogs"

in the attendant's slang

passage of information, especially information

excluded from knowledge of the decisions taken regarding his fate

a special basis o distance and control over inmates

restrictions of contact presumably

worlds develop, jogging alongside

bounds. But to say

work, then, this

outside. There

it. This is

ceremonial, payments, such

required, induced not h reward

can buy; all needs

staff; here

They say. Is it

us? For by

hour; paid to work, paid

sleep: always those half pence

up. Impossible, therefore

to dignify a job

it well. It must

waiting, but another job

self respect. (Staff members,

the family. Family life

living, but in fact

existence. Conversely,

culture" (to modify

of being "in" or "on the inside" does not exist apart

home world. Upon entrance

abasements, degradations, humiliations and profanations

is mortified

of self. In civil life

taboo. Although

home. The role

such. It nay not be

up, at a

cycle, the time

advancement, in

"civil death"

world. The process

well. We

life history, photographing, weighing, fingerprinting, assigning numbers, searching, listing personal possessions for storage, undressing, bathing, disinfecting, haircutting

nakedness. Leaving off

on, with

clothing, combs, towels, soap, shaving sets, bathing facilities

disfigurement, beatings,

shock therapy, surgery

dispossession

integrity. At admission

way. Given

movements, postures, and stances

demeaning. Any

regulation, command or task

that forces

pose, so he may

"sir." Another

beg, importune, humbly ask

a daily round of life

his body, his immediate actions, his thoughts

clear of contact

violated; the boundary

relationships. (Similarly,

hold oneself off

every gesture and nuance of error

forms, for these

over: forcing upon

men of his own type and badge

its effect, with

a disruption

his arts

attacks. The individual

situation; he

society, when

of self, he is

sullenness, failure to offer usual signs of deference, sotto

voce profaning asides, fugitive expressions of contempt, irony

derision. Compliance

activity, citing

society, audience

avowals and implicit claims

thrown up

well-oriented, antagonistic

process, since

doctrine. A "permissive"

situation is collapsed

itself, and he

action. A second assault

of regulation and tyrannization

judged. Beyond this

pace. He need not

fit into

regulations and judgements

by staff; the inmate's

above, especially

unthinkingly

"One!"

"Two!"

"Three!"

shirts on

pants at

shoes at

any noise, like

attention, hands

thumbs even

face or head

enforced. No

official, visistor, guard

beyond sight

still and hidden

smoking, shaving, going to the toilet, telephoning, spending money, mailing letters

submissive or suppliant

teased, denied, questioned at length, not noticed

put off

able yet lacking

unsupplied. Even

indefinitely, while

dress, deportment, manners

the press of

enveloping tissue of constraint

school, but

certain rights

sanction. (This arrangement,

outside, the audit

work, or

diffuse, novel, and strictly enforced

ones, to live

the consequence of breaking

disrupt or defile

over his world-- that he is a person

a soft bed

quietness at night

"pretty please"

jump up for it

his will. Less ceremonialized

superfluous. And instead

restrictions by renunciation, beating by self-flagellation, inquisition by confession

to talk; on the outside

such rights

the building of a world

culture, and yet

sharing; it almost

cigarettes, candy, newspapers

animals and children

components, put together

power. This power

ridicule, viscious ribbing, corporal punishment

"messing up." Messing up

escape), getting caught

fights, drunkenness, attempted suicide, failure at examinations, gambling, insubordination, homosexuality, improper leave taking, participation in collective riots

cussedness, villany,, or "sickness"

a vocabulary

"the angles"

"ins"

as by

objects, then

decent human beings

pervades

slogan shouting, booing, tray thumping, mass food rejection

mutinies; but these

plateaus of disinvolvement

broken (as they

disciplined, moralistic, monochromatic

sponsor of ideal

it cool." This

cramped, arduous

engendered. The low

process, creates

a story, a line, a sad tale

means of accounting

conversation and concern

tactful, suppressing

misdeeds, and the refusal

on, and

wasted or destroyed or taken

"done" or "marked" or "put in" or "pulled'

hard. This time

sense

dead and heavy hanging

field game, dances, orchestra and band playing, choral singing lectures, art classes or woodworking classes, card playing

industrial alcohol, nutmeg or ginger

of dead sea in

vivid, encapturing

outside. This

sharp smell of fresh air

pass

the lose or failure

circles from which

LO DISFRUTO

Aug / Sept 1975

One a problem with a fragment sitting. Wave I stare as well at that only as if this all and not form letting it but is it.

Beach of a glut too close of a sudden as it lies hung completely as weight, substance, imperceptible as cleft. Susan saying by now of its worth than she does at that only how other people in that respect a sameness which reference means the place it has with anyone else so boxed in obviously to spend the wrong place.

Fixes for a time apart automatically taken to myself a sudden sitting at such sweep setting so often my mind out of it being said from where already by staring we sneak at home at.

Beach mines a constriction over prominence ends for a time to lace it else so boxed. Conditions of height setting only as if taken to myself such fragment than she does. Already by staring sand becomes smell figment out of it imperceptible gradually shifts time. Particular contrast respecting form by just it sweep a sudden sitting. The one a problem of its worth by now how sameness to mind back at such. All of a glut not change in obviously eye.

Dependant sitting with a fragment in glut of people. Beach at time else so sweep.

The inspiration is nobody to prefer to play for thought as myself as hair or shape of face. He would have a refusal to let as body as objective as nobody for thought. A refusal to whet he feels to get done enough to tell. Hung as subjectivity has more shape of face a contempt for thought which is as aesthetic a particular of inspiration as nobody to talk to. Something to do with paint medicine to play pop and there's no time.

As hair he would prefer to play a contempt for consciousness as well as cities and towns gradually shifts time. It means that only as if I don't in that respect by saying with reverie. Enormous whatever to cell it too well I say with recognition as shape of face. A contempt for producing hung by lonliness worth by now to mind at such.

Rejection at seriously to get close enough which is as aesthetic as if I don't. A fascination unlike it ever does with point to play Its worth. Repeating particular mine like passing can't be helped. He would prefer as subjectivity already by staring sand a sudden relation. Inside a face of nobody to get as body more than another. A conversation as hair that respects a sameness like counting off to play mixers only.

Unlike it ever I think that of nobody to get the person equally. But speaking more I equally like counting off a question should it be an up being like a chess game. Sag Harbor about myself Susan was saying by now thinking seriously in getting walking more revelatory as such. Consciousness I think that being seriously like like counting up more painful as body as volleyball. Of the person as such is lower for something else to speak a conversation already by staring. Loneliness by now walking as much like granite as it can be. Figment more playful is one spoken that lies hidden.

Becomes out of it imperceptible as nobody to get as body a question is perhaps equally. Mode in terms of or else unlike it by myself as seriously may include sameness by nobody acting a sound at that only as if. At sand done its fingers randomly to get a scrap hung as such consciousness. Loneliness to say intended gracefully for example always there no prospect. Walking more equally a conversation shifts else sweeps.

Repeating particular mine like passing hung as fingers sound randomly by myself imperceptible as mode. Buzz even my nerves staring more time as physical space an inspiration in nobody to prefer. Obligation at that implicit of a sameness respecting the say of a glut. Beach unlike it sweeps disaffection of a landscape out of it as much as hair a problem with a shame of figment.

Same god, a map, the turning of inseams, bones, sceptres, rocks with lunar counts, salmon, reindeer, seals, art of pleats or hunting rights, star maps. Sound sweep buzz of a particular sand same world fantasy to a word mine specifically who where slowly as licks, swirling, fallen as physical space, seal right.

Press of a hum, seals, licks, lunar counts, fingers such as consciousness refused at sand stroke, shape of a count. Worth by now to mind as such specifically swirling of a sameness as much as hair nose a glut of height.

To call it too well I say almost force. Conversion

shifts lately becomes sweep intended as body. Specifically swirling imperceptible of sand, consciousness, opal. Mine passing substance masked as weight, shift of cleft, gravity hung as time.

Completely my mind an empty limit turning of sand, lunar counts, consciousness as hair that respects a, sameness like counting specifically wightless. Conditions of it at any rate brought home at space to hang in. Occlusion intended as body weight messed at conversation turning of seals, star right. Susan was saying by now how other people hang of sudden passing like stokes of a. refusal. At any rate thought a gloom perbaps allowed to slip as objectivity counting the buzz of a hum.

Sustains everyday no thought as next need. Bedroom massed at occlusion disciplined in turning figures waiting as quails, octaroons, nutlets perceived as glow respecting a sameness all to each.

Sitting this all as next need. I stare as well as if place to fix on a worry. Easy for me staring completely my mind quails as room explaining consciousness specifically massed. Figment mines as it does gradually back at mind. Else sweep in fragment with anyone. Particular form as aesthetic an attention as shape of sameness. Suddenly inside a shape he would prefer at space imperceptible as sand. Stokes, glut, count of a turning, empty limit brought home as hang of shape. Person as such worth by now to mind is something disciplined in occlusion.

Obviously eye for thought as myself a right place to move implicit in a landscape. Repeating time fallen as physical space, shift of cleft, weight of a glut. By now how other people objectively limit a particular of inspiration by granite as it lies hung by loneliness.

A kind of clawing, of persons, piles clumping otherwise empty now for peers. Wanting not much to her and hearing nothing by granite as it lies more painful, body pressed of hum, cities towns like passing hung as sound, particular of sameness, substance, sand, seals, specifically weightless. A shape of figment as much as hair or stroke of sag.

Of persons almost by now wanting granite as it lies fallen of particular shape, pressed as intention, body weight, imperceptible as opal. Completely as becomes substance to call it gravity is one spoken equally cleft of count. ipe

march 1975

e he be we me bib big beg bag fin rim tin ten tan fit fat rib bit bat sit sat set fig ice rice mice nice slice price twice face lace space race trace brace grace juice juicy spice spicy cyclone bicycle Lucy

son	won	wonderfully
grandson	wonder	none
ton	wonderful	done

excell exercise except excuse explode explain extreme express expect exchange exact examine example exist exert

excite

arise	India	Cinderella
along	China	umbrella
soda	collar	salad
sofa	lizard	spectacles
Clara	manager	climate

at	can	sam
ate	cane	same
hat	pan	mad
hate	pane	made
mot	man	fad
mat mate	man mane	fade
mate	mane	Taue
rat	cap	hid
rate	cape	hide
fat	tap	dim
fate	tape	dime
C.		
fin	bit	lop
fine	bite	lope
pin	rid	not
pine	ride	note
tin	rod	cut
tine	rode	
une	loue	cute
win	rob	us
wine	robe	use
din	hop	tub
dine		tube
unic	hope	luoc
rip	mop	cub
ripe	mope	cube

matting	pinning	holly
mating	pining	holy
lopping	dinner	latter
loping	diner	later
filling	mopping	hopping
filing	moping	hoping

voice choice spoil join

oyster noise out of this inside

(feb/march 75)

it, but oneself stay out, under, in depth, increase the relevance, let them go, i go, he aches he bears juice, he omits whatever speaks of help, i played it out,

so much time and then the city, the light, the air, missing you, a syntatic beauty, trees amazed

blown, i do have that need, sensitive, the writing, scare making aggression, on the floor, lapping, the memory, the fragrance, compulsive, is this in me, or trained, one learns to direct, control, send, manipulate, make do, get ahead, far, distant, felt, left, but ahead, and others behind, drifting, that, onto the hill, dale, layers of latino immigrants, a place to place, thatched, all in the pick up, technique, style, behavior pattern, i will like it, must, needs, eat it up, scruffy or, the bit, the do it, the medicine, big and strong, the myth, the hope, the expectation, praying, oh no not me, him, her, them, not, i'm, romantic, successful, pool, westport, not, on top of the bill, a. view, majorca, such fucked up people, such fuckers and fucked up, and they wonder, who, gentle on the skirts, they ask, being cool, the gentle demeanor, and then, watch it, timber, out, so you, give up power, who, and they, take, who, and the house, car, laundry machine, consumptive, up, up, the little italian summer, up, the editing up, the achievement, up, the organic vegetables, up, the first run films, up, the, well, up, all, watch it flow, struggle, defeat, the power, up, up.

the necessary or the probable, sometimes, a smell, the march, the singing, joyous, mommy is home, home, back, relaxed at last, home, blondhair below, back, staring, did she die, one tries, but how much is demanded, who cares, who gives in. the best always the best, see this or that not that, conservative, ethnic, kitsch, this not that, picking., judgement, but hearing, thats, hearing, in what have you, the, in, what you hear, what you give to, quality, the finest, the competitive, the power, thats, but hear, and give to, thats.

slow now, the passages, all the force bottled up, slow now, the passage, endless cycles

as sequential as two in the morning, as slippery as the frog on the ping pond, humor, words, throbbing, stuck, in reverie, in dance, in twirl complet, spin rapt, remember, the forties big band bounce, was, to throb thats, to go out, to school myself, call, musnt appear needy, call, maybe, translate, the push, to go from nothing to something, drives me, inexorably, no one need know, to know to care, no one need be a peon, ugh, the pastoral, what you need is some sun, must write hack, call, but, expecting more letters, so simple, a few friends, start from one, a few, a visit, or two, i mean i had some.

the possibilities the list, to do, to call, what, now, nothing, i end, i go on, nothing, i do, nothing, without, so aggressive, i go on, nothing, i do, i go on, nothing, the lists, the box, the hope, the fear, nothing, I do, on,

waiting, will it be received, that gracious lordly preserve, to go on wrtng, endless grammatical revelations, pastoral internings, she likes me, thinks i'm sensitive, or just nice, not brutish, not hunter, and wait, every rebuff cuts, feel each, sensitive, soft, weak, pusilanimous, this is it, what I've been waiting for, this, wait The, shld wait outside, in the light, in the bright, too insular, shld get out of this inside, rdng, wrtng, world of calls, letters, tapes, records, events, scenes, hopes, promises, rejections, shld get out, to the woods, trees, farms, acres of grass, should, remember friendship, live empty, here waiting, all this speed, too eratic, what of that simple, touched, it means then, when it happens, automatic, conditioned, a confession and a revelation, now i'm going, or gone, infrequent, badly, these images, this listening, missing, this, i do jump on, resent, but let it be, let them have their share og fun, who am i to say, that she loves me, or he, or she, i let. and wait, to hear.

in sonorous phrases, with heart, not form, with heart, and play the repetory, the sound, the feel, be ordinary, conservative, middle class, decent, unaspiring, that, a part, play, checkov, ibsen, the whole thing, hamlet, king henry, costumes, fresnels, the whole, perfect, and rest, swoon, relax, finally, not all this, not trying, just a novel or a sam waterston movie, at night i'd, relax, all the way, rest.

dont find it, that persists, shape, its name, veiled, almost,

bouncing, grub, tiddling interference, must, should, the necessary, now that, i, need, not there, cant bring, halt, hold, stop, together, just tapping, interference, out, the world, society, into that, direct, a stopping, quieting, deft, lift, regain, show it me, not, zone, listings, substantial, settle, must push, get on, you're rushed, funded, hailed, rush then,

shift, down, lunch, up, pleat,

late, afternoon, hunger, marching, stop the, elephantine goddesses shimmering, twilight, the way, ersatz aspirin, jean simmons, fail, deplete, vacant, empty, listless, tv, record, food, stuff, cram, take in, nice that, melody, story, ending, a break, cease, that, nice, in, lip, stomach, behind, obligitoire, remade american, stretched, a passing, tuneful, bleak, rested, godly, clean spoken, pressed, new shoes. shiney, prim, well presented, dont, or do, both, all, confused confrontation. antagonism, soured emnity, the lists of love, care, devote myself,

repell, inadaquate, come too soon, aggression, soft, rhetorical, harp, bite back, is, the, to be, am, sung, skunk, will, are, spelled, broke, was, and would,

be aggressive, seize the time, get allies, dont be mistaken, make any, caught, open, honest, dont distort, dont whine, authentic, winning, on top, in the know, get, be, make, do, all, in a day's, be a, let it get you, a, push, pushed consumed, dont, no mistakes, never, be, express, dont, strong, allies, win, get,

call and, alligned, polished, plate glass, invested, lifted, threatens, heavens, among, plan and pipe, sleep, slip,

Count the number of things you call mine. This is the distance between you and enlightenment. --Swami Satchidananda

(for jenny)

july 1974

my pillow my shirt my house my supper my tooth my money my kite my job my bagel my spatula my blanket my arm my painting my fountain pen my desk my room my turn my book my hopelessness my wallet my print my sock my toe my stamp my introduction my luggage my plan my mistake my monkey my friend my penis my anger my expectation my pencil my pain my poster

my fear my luggage tag my eyes my rainment my wash my opinion my fat my sleeplessness my love my basket my lunch my game my box my drawer my cup my longing my blotter my distraction my underpants my papers my wish my despair my erasure my plantation my candy my thoughtfulness my forebearance my gracelessness my courage my crying my hat my pocket my dirt my body my sex my scarf

my solidarity my hope my spelling my smile my gaze my helplessness my quilt my reply my enemy my records my letter my gait my struggle my spirit my cut my thorn my demise my dream my plate my pit my hollow my blindness my clinging my projection my teacher my homework my housework my responsibility my guilt my relaxation my boat my crew my peanut butter my mill my man my hopelessness

my fooling my sweet my terror my programme my judgement my disguise my distress my ladle my soup my mother my basin my pleat my cheddar my ownership my enmity my thought my encyclopaedia my property my formula my infidelity my discretion my decision my delusion my deduction my derision my destitution my delinquincy my belt my eroica my junk my jealosy my remorse my strength my vision my world my fantasy

my anger

my determination

my refusal

my commitment

my insanity

my verbosity

my austerity

my androgeny

my defiance

my insistence

my emastication

my arousal

my mystification

my obscuraration

my ejaculation

my prostration

my wontonness

my cigarette

my belief

my uncertainty

my cat

my penetration

my insight

my obsolescence

my sleeping bag

my temptation

my dedication

my ball

my court

my kidney

my razor

my way

my tissue

my inadaquacy

my own

my recorder

my song my knack my perception my will my canoe my billiard ball my content my cassette my voice my sight my knoweldge my bowels my beard my child my lethargy my nerve my incredulity my banana my ink my refrigerator my car my change my pupil my hair my tongue my tenderness my star my skill my personna my popularity my pickle my pinto my window my remembrance my munificance my country

my fragility my visit my longevity my curtness my incomparablity my sarcasm my sincerity my bed my bed table my table top my bar mitzvah my laughter my scorn my heartache my sandwich my call my loss my wit my charm my jest my undoing my practice my piano lesson my rage my toe my tatoo my turtledove my fly swatter my vest my notebook my pocketbook my sketchbook my repulsion my tea cup my taste my bag

my handbag my bike my jay my roll my dear my milk my closet my slacks my hoist my ennui my analysis my language my fortune my vagueness my mint my limit my import my inference my affectation my affection my insolence my solitude my memory my bottle my history my ability my adobe my mission my likeness my miserey my solipsism my omission my regression my opera my penicillin my resentment my future my understanding my apricots my holiday my umbrella my favorite my mood my side my seat my figment my contour my sky my rainbow my god my mask my reflection my blessing my light my time my epoxy my drum my hammer my grease my sand my story my top my past my mark my depth my garden my silence my speech my selfishness my hunger my allowance my letter

my massage my derision my epoch my space my land my plentitude my perversity my poverty my transgression my exultation my lack my lustre my beatude my remission my encantation my white my pulse my creation my grace my object my sun my contumely my gloom my idea my chart my circumference my gravity my polarity my distance my eyelid my planting my separation my id my art my death my stand

my preparation my heart my life my impression my grave my graciousness my marrow my heaven my appearance my olive oil my flake my self my porridge my function my nakedness my illumination my freedom my charity my rose my pallour my pomp my pajamas my pity my posing my prayer my dawn my ocean my tide my underarm my spectacle my drifting my ground my body my angels my worship my dew

my hobbey horse my customer my bread my faith my lies my care my restlessness my sunflower my weariness my age my existence my sense my backache my pie my thanks my numbness my sweeplng my inspiration my token my pond my brillo my squint my pound my rock my critique my aplomb my portrait my view my rocking chair my sisters my demands my gumdrops my word