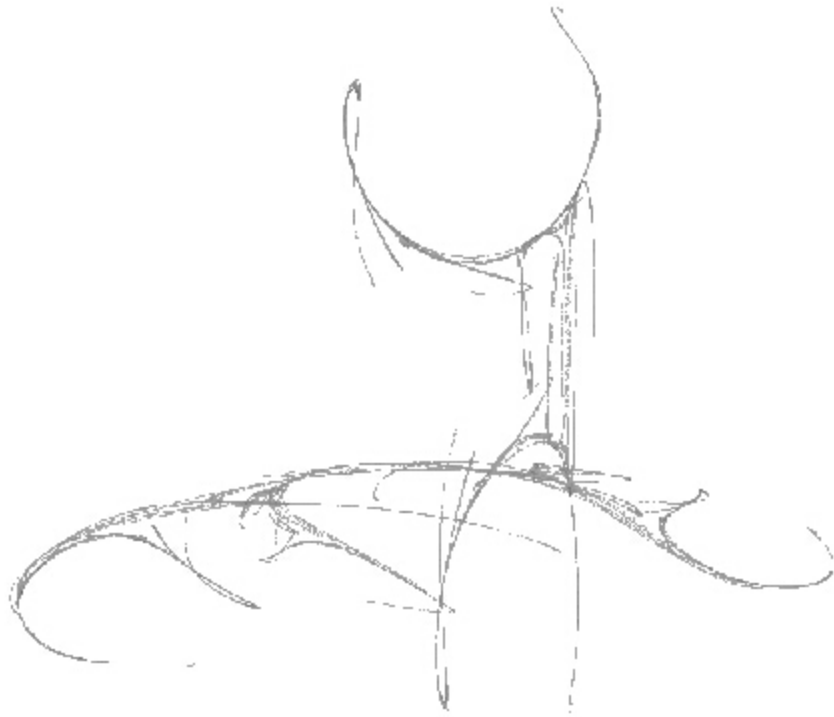


File 'em

by

Catherine Daly



xPress(ed)

File 'em by Catherine Daly

Cover Art by Jukka-Pekka Kervinen
Copyright © 2003.

Design, Typesetting and e-Publishing:
xPress(ed)
Espoo, Finland.

Copyright © 2003 by Catherine Daly.
All rights reserved.

Thanks to Ron Henry, who previously published "Number Nine" and "I" at
Aught, <http://people2.clarityconnect.com/webpages6/ronhenry/aught.htm>.

Electronically published in Finland.

ISBN 951-9198-16-4

WWW: <http://www.xpressed.org>
email: info@xpressed.org

"Can one take captive the roar of the city."

can one capture

the team (of amazons) captured

conquered

the flag

a white toilet brush

a red rag

conquistadors of roar, they roar

the city roars like a lion

in front of the library and Chinese homes

Aho! earth to witness

is lying, laid out in a grid

we all scream for (the emperor) of ice cream

can one?

ice cream in a paper carton coated with wax

May one, that famous day, for bouquets and Mary and parades of tanks,

take captives

that're site-specific sounds, natives

where -- home? Where it's quiet?

Not without becoming a team of mimes, mimics, memes, "me me me."

Tumbrels roar, too.

I have merely

adopted the roar

like a cub, like a check-out line, of enlightenment,

of the city.

I have been a roar, but then I came

arrived at

my senses.

Simon Says in the school yard.

Among schoolgirls.

Explanation of the Idioms

The female poet died down, she rolled off the anthologies like a dog. The excitement which came about as a result of her break down broke down, disintegrated. Had she used the words to stand out, to get ahead? Was she intransitive? It's not that memory fell through or some other poet got around the rules. She couldn't hold on; she showed up, but no one caught on or got the gist of it – they just looked on. We settled down to wait for someone who'd persist.

Practice with Idioms

to believe, go into, enter, exit, exeunt, run over, a cross, touch the road, try for the side, not adversarial but to turn in to, into, to stick to getting over going without, parting is such sweet sorrow, come to take after, to partake

Practice with Idioms

I put up with what you come () with, dream, look forward to looking up to get through to you. Look out, jump back, get back, honky cat, look back like Lot – to be in on it.

"Pretty is as pretty does."

Stupid.

I never met my remaining grandfather. They die.

He pieced together the parquet floor in the small strip of entrance hallway in riverside.

"parquet" "special"

The first landing coat closet held the mink paw coat with stand up collar
and home movies.

Pelts dry. Gestures shed them.

The inevitable occasional table and dried flower arrangement near the needlepoint
of the season on the second landing.

If I thought about the sugar spilled rather than the salt, for some reason
I think about the green-and-army green plastic salt and pepper shakers and
matching napkin (napalm) holder on the office furniture in my grandmother's kitchen.
In the spectator portion of my grandmother's kitchen.

I'd like to run a ginsu knife through every retro cool purchaser of a vintage stove, not a
stove on which one could really cook:

we used to roll around on the casters and spin on our green vinyl chairs at the wood
grain melamine conference table and look at the geometrical Indians pierced
through the dull plastic.

There was lots of food but the china was all busted juggling.

Learning How to Learn

Learning How to Earn

trade school

Links in the chain of whatever dependence, what's the dependency on this? the manager. Ask a question with the answer, "yes." Food and shelter. Vaccination and vacation and going home for summer cholera season.

Set Realistic Goals

Number Nine

deadline. all-in-a-rush to meet
it. between hand and canvas
always and nearly
writing, less direct

only close to change
with hands.

precludes, prevents
anxiety not black, not blank

fill in dark figures to fill figures
to figurate
background.

with a pen try to fill
paint might fill.
he knows what this looked like too.

only close to random without extra characters
numbers, dingbats, wingdings

then, closer.

interstices: time paint
change

to Guard the Secret
to have it, picture of a painting of it,
later work.

invitation to arbitrary includes
obsession with search
for her guest, host, keepsake, forsaken
iconography. the world needs pleasure

calligraphy. arrangement. release.
catch and release.

prints without background.

etchings fully scratched.
drips filled, filler
solve

field with figures
field with drips.
full with something growing and field of weeds
listen

scribbling desperation
drive to figure
to populate ground
after playground

dark shapes

become back-
ground

shorthand. algebra front row.

proportions separate from canvas.

only close with hands

(without interstice)

close before mixing letter and number

then,
closer,

yeah big
random not static static obscures
seemed after painting

action?
spit
complete reception, dish

arabesque
the dead-line, upstream fish, upstream, too,
precludes, pisces, piscine
all
at
once

invite arbitrary
not invoke meaning.
arrangement release
foreground
background
figure
field
arbitration

ballerina pink

arabesques conclude a ceaseless phrase.

with knots
nots

linguistics: human no longer automomous
continuity (river) vs. originality
krassner: self is not original
sight/self

|

leave to trace,

edit through.

between hand and and
boundary, limit, possibility
obvious

only far from change
with two hands.

immersed within
anxiety, boredom white, pleasant

hey to make figures
to figure
falls away, background.

try to fill
fill.
no one knows what this looked like.

felt like close to random but worse

then, closer.

all interstice: rock wind
astronomy

to only have secrets.
to talk it out aloud alone,

later work.

obsession with search
for water, ice. the world needs pleasure.

to be found. release.
catch and release.

leave no trace.

these prints everywhere.

linocuts.

background
figure
field
arbitrary nature

golden

only opening

with knots
nots

human no longer automomous
continuity (river) vs. originality
self is not original
sight/self

English for the Secretary

Filing

The central filing system is a procedure.
The index for the files shows what the files contain.
A system is an organized way.

The filing system by surname is tricky and political.

At the World Bank, my department printed each e-mail message sent and received, then imaged that file for storage. I made a mail-in database and slipped a kluge into the memo template so that my cubicle mate did not have to print then scan all the e-mails, just the hard copy letters received.

Who stacked the mail?
Where did she stack the mail?
What mail?

The sound of fingers tapping on the keyboards like rain. If a girl named Catherine in his home country. My other name is more familiar sounding. To be a clerk on I Street. Scanning e-mail. The mural in the coffeeshop: hibiscus. The same muralist: a cheerful sandwich in the subterranean deli.

She assembled the day's mail (gathered / prepared / weighed).
assembly assemble assimilate
I have much mail to sort. Past tense.

to dial
dialtone
exchange
 notes

I have asked for advice, not delivered it. A collator is a device. A coloratura sings in Venice. I am well. Her voice is from the bottom of a well. Sentimental.

A business machine sorts information.

A library is a place. Not for sale. Sale of goods, manufactures. Learning company operations.

transcribe
transcript
transcription

The Forge

pianos, pianos, the children are forced to practice,
hammering on the keys, on the strings, clomping through
drills, scales, exercises written to build a certain cerebral muscle
between ring fingers and transposition,

mothers forego hearing, fathers eat hamburger,
to pay, to pay for the children to practice the interminable instrument of the family's
imprisonment,
hot cross buns, three blind mice, heart and soul, The Entertainer

more accomplishments will be purchased, still more accomplishments:
ballet and french, cooking, sewing, and etiquette,
let us go and visit the holes which fill the Albert Hall
and not make this false recital

I will use science as a weapon, if nothing else, and perhaps this will unite us,
blue stockings against blue laws; I will wiggle my hypothesis long after 2 am
and in the state of Texas, and in a state of inebriation, half-clad as Madame X in
Boston;

I will drink deeply of giddy vertiginous experiments before noon

I will make researches into the correlation of toplessness and lawlessness and literary
theory.

I will not put sugar in my tea! I am a yankee, but no puritain, pilgrim:
homerick, tempestuous, impetuous.

I will show you local texture if you will show me how
you could get the entire state of Missouri to dance on the head of a pin
maybe the Charleston or something easy.

Standards for Thinking

Now after the reading, this list of rules: clarity, relevance, logic, accuracy, Depth,
Breadth, significance, precision, fairness
and it's metaphor, images *that* demand, similarity to imagism,
poetry, this thinking, which is thanking: a memory: Sister's Lake, Michigan, big mitten,
raspberry season, 1976.

The water in the sand-bottomed lake is clear to the colors of the different pebbles,
water warm, but drinkable, oil can raft swimmable, cots on the sleeping porch,
soft chenille and oft-washed sheets, right.

Mosquitoes batted against the screens.

Fish bit to the right bait.

You could see them, swimming, from a canoe, row boat, learn

fish habits, know the fish as though they were reclusive celebrities, unfriendly
neighbors, as many of them were,

slowly learn you wouldn't get a dollar for better hooks, or dolls, but would for pennies
blown into small glass bottles. First kiss, cool haircut, new puppies, ice cream
and raspberries in the morning, anything

keeps the rowboat on the beach in the mist, in the morning, Mr. Whiskers in his cove.

Sentimentality keeps fairness in one place, "standards for thinking" in one,
and this precise avoidance of significance sentimental, kicking to a closure. Free?

A raft, to locate a supported preference for pleasure in relevance.

Fish. Love. Ripe fruit. Mosquitoes. 1776.