

## **Joefiles 236**

*Myths are Real in a Fictional Cowboy Scene*

**Cats**

Raining

Dogs

Is

The

Pandemic

Parable.

**Just took**

a second

to really

look at a sign

on a porch

off of main street

here

that says

'life is better on the porch'

& no one

is out there

On

The

empty planks

To

Prove

This day.

**I went down**

in the early September air

with my son

to wait

for the bus

& he asked

if I could get his hoodie

for him

& I went up

& got one

& quickly brought

it down

& it was the wrong one

& he told me

which one

it was

& I asked him

why didn't he go up

& show me

Which one it was

and I was confused as to which one it was I heard a love supreme on the radio and instantly everything came in the focus

## **Morning hummingbirds**

flit

by like

that bucket of thoughts

that collect

everything i forgot

and when i

finally

have pause

to remember,

they fly

off again

full of sweet nectar

and

unnamable

ghosts in

their wake.

## **The kid**

with two broken legs

In the Children's Mercy Hospital

wheelchair

going up

into the office

asking for his

character of the month award

sat patiently

& had a very light voice

waiting for

his hard earned award

& after a few minutes

while I waited

for the custodian

He waited for his award

& as he got it

He didn't have

a huge expression

on his face,

But as I figured out

where the custodian

was

& started to leave,

this kid was trying

to catch

the door

& keep his award

from getting bent up

three or four or five kids  
that were  
walking by  
to music class  
saw this  
& opened the door  
for him  
& as he came out  
Rolling his wheels  
With all his might  
I noticed his shirt  
That said  
'my mom is my hero'  
as I looked down the hall  
After him  
and saw the little  
Escaping box of  
his outline going  
to where  
he was going  
& realized  
That this is the reason  
why I like  
My job so much  
Witnessing tiny blips  
Of heroism and bravery  
in those small ways  
every  
Single day.

**As I was playing catch**

with my son

this morning

while waiting

for the bus

he had a Chicago cubs

tie-dye baseball

my wife got for him

the previous weekend

for a team that

he loves

because of his stepdad

and as he was

getting on the bus

I told him that

we should probably

put it in his bag

so that he wouldn't

get in trouble

at school

and he just said that he really wanted to show

his stepdad the ball

And I let him do it

Thinking how have

we come as a People

When a kid

can't celebrate

the joy of his parents



and has  
to worry  
about hiding it  
because  
he's going to a school  
where things can go sideways  
on any bright and sunny day  
and I feel good  
about what I did  
and he sent  
me a picture  
On the bus  
of his hero Zack Hample  
with one of my heroes  
Conan O'Brien  
getting interviewed  
and asked me to  
watch the video  
because he knows how much I enjoy the comedy  
As our days began  
The best  
Way

that you  
get things  
in this lifetime  
acknowledged  
it's gonna  
be that one time  
you won't expect it  
but I suspect  
in my case  
nothing is  
ever going  
to be  
Ever recognized  
Until I am  
way gone  
far away  
from this  
blue rock.

## **The healthy Hispanic women**

walking their

tiny dogs

on a

unseasonably warm

September day

are the ones

that shine

like goddesses

in a world

Where

no one

believes in God

anymore,

But they

Revere

Them.

**It's late September**

and it's

the first day

where it's not

in the 80s or 90s

and I saw

an older woman

filling up her

fountain drink

full of Coke

and she had

winter boots

up to her knees

and I knew

That it was officially

Cold season

& it was like

seeing the very

First

fire fly

As the gals

Usher in a new

Seasonal era

Of booting

Cold

In the arse.

**His friends**

and Homies

call him scoop

& now

he's memorialize

on a train

In full ROY G BIV colors

and everybody calls

Him a fucking hero

As those bright colors

in his name

pop out

like a marquee

on Broadway

and every city USA

is the train

Of his choosing as

It chugs

down the

Motherfucking track.

## **I had a dream the other night**

that I was  
walking down  
a path and  
Jillian and Amanda  
were behind me  
and there was a bunch of  
motorcycles  
and I decided  
to knock over  
the leader of the  
motorcycles head  
and as it  
Fell to the ground  
I picked it back up  
and put it on it's stand  
like I just  
wanted to see  
what would happen  
and they  
ran up behind me  
kind of freaked out  
but laughing  
As I still  
Try to  
Figure out why  
I remember  
It.



**I Always bump into the Slow turtle**

on my bike ride

Lumbering

Across the path

As the metaphors

Glow.



**Neighbor up the way**

saw me playing catch

with my boy Miles

in both the AM & PM

and asked

if I had a day job

And

That

Was the finest thing

Anyone could have

Said

Or assumed about

My existence.

**The little plastic lime green**

slow down guy

in the yard

on the corner

with a new home

says 'slow down'

& is knocked over

in the early morning sunshine

and I find irony

all over the place

Running rampant

Like a squirrel party.

**I just drove**

through a

whole murder

of crows

in the middle

of the street

Prancing around

looking for food

and I actually

came out

unscathed

In my

Most recent

Brush with

Murder.

**There is a little rundown house**

on the corner

of a very busy street

here in mid-September

all marked

up with all kinds of things Halloween

Like caution tape

& a bloody mural

that says keep out

and other things

Of gore

and I wonder

if that truly

is a haunted house

and they're just

trying to throw

All us people off

with their

little

Seasonal tricks.

## **The one lonely dirty mask**

Of COVID

is rolling down

the late September highway

As

the echoes

of President Biden

saying the pandemic is over

a week ago

reverberates like a

rumor

stuck

in the truth

that we

all don't quite believe

we are living

& at some level

of deep denial

that we are OK with now

in this 2022

getting ready to

go into

The full unknown

Of

2023.

## **The Pooka shell**

Wearing dudes of

Youth

Gone

Are all

The worst

Politicians

We see over

&

Over

On the TV.

**I've hit that point my life**

with all of those

big truck motherfucking

driving dudes

that I would like

to invite them all

to the largest field

in the world

under the guise

that they're going

to see their

little orange marshmallow

Trump guy hero

and somehow I'm going

to convince them

that they

need to drive

towards the center

Of the field simultaneously

towards a hologram

of their big inflated

MAGA dummy

As the all agree

& they all

just crash

into each other

and we start

getting rid of

these big fucking

truck motherfuckers

one at a time

if not 1000 or more

at a damn time.



**On this rare September morning**

as I drove

down the highway

with low tire pressure

and very little gas

I saw the big orb

of Jupiter

sitting right there

on the horizon

and I started

thinking about

things outside

of earth

and the little concerns

As that twinkling

massive

tiny puncture

of light

came through

like all of

the sci-fi dreams

I used to imagine

when I was

Tiny

Puncture

Of child.

## **My favorite kind of animal**

is usually  
that bird  
off the side  
of a somewhat  
windy highway  
& it's just  
sitting there  
flying  
against the wind  
coming towards  
him  
as he flaps  
his wings  
as hard  
as he can  
and he's going nowhere  
but enjoying  
the ride  
being suspended  
there  
In his little world of wonder  
That  
Make all  
A  
Of us  
Wondrous.

## **The real dreamers**

in the gas station  
are the men  
hovered over the  
lottery section  
with all those slips  
and numbers  
and matrix possibilities  
and they are in  
heavily looking down  
with focus  
ready to win  
cent in the wishing well  
as the perfumed women  
walk by  
only to casually  
glance up serendipitously  
knowing they have  
quite a power to spend  
and  
spin the roulette numbers,  
as well.