

## down time

today is the first day  
of what's left of my life  
today is the last day  
of the dead man's journey.

today I don't poison myself for a pension  
today I don't soil my spirit  
today I don't split my soul.

yesterday I was  
lightning in a bottle  
a watermelon on the vine  
a rocket on the pad.

today I'm a rusty old pile of railroad spikes  
tossed together in a heap by the tracks  
wondering why the trains don't come anymore.

today I'm quiet  
today I don't speak  
today I listen.

today I walk the circle  
that leads to the center  
from the outside  
to the inside  
and back again.

today I know that I'm only a sparkle of sunlight  
shimmering on the surface of an ageless sea  
today I hear the blade cutter in the distance  
but I know it's not for me  
today I know the scariest thing I've ever known  
that I can't make my life  
the life I thought it would be  
not today  
maybe tomorrow  
but not today.