

*transcription poems* | luke martin

2014–2016

the pieces are texts to be read by a single reader.

the following are **general guidelines** for the creation and performance of transcription poems.

there are several steps involved:

*part 1:*

- 1) locate a food service place (restaurant, café, bar, etc.)
- 2) go eat there, alone. bring a recorder, writing utensil, and paper.
- 3) find a seat at an empty table and order a meal. this location must have a sit-down option.
- 4) take out your recorder and, inconspicuously, place it on your table. begin recording the room.
- 5) also, take out your paper and writing utensil. begin, in a relaxed manner, writing a poem. this poem may be based on anything and in any form you would like. it may be as long or as short as you would like.
- 6) when you are finished with your meal, and have paid, stop writing and stop the recorder.

*part 2:*

- 7) listen back to the full recording of the room in the restaurant. transcribe all of the phrases you hear. you should only listen back once through, straight (i.e., without slowing audio down, pausing, etc.). ultimately, the transcription should be typed up on a computer. it should have commas between phrases and no breaks; just one block of text.
- 8) type up the poem you wrote in the space, again on a computer. follow your line breaks and placement of words on the handwritten page, as accurately as possible.
- 9) transfer your typed-up poem and, adhering to the formatting decisions as much as possible, embed it within the block of transcribed text from the recording.
- 10) you may (re) organize and present that final block of combined text in any way you see fit.

*part 3:*

- 11) decide who you would like to have read the poem (it can be yourself).
- 12) decide on the manner in which the poem should be read.

**a note on the *transcription poems* (2014-2016):**

these pieces are written for:

amy golden, ben levinson, fernando orellana, isaac aronson,  
jordan dykstra, and tim tsang

i recorded this project while i was living in santa clarita, ca/was at calarts. i asked six friends there— amy, ben, fernando, isaac, jordan, and tim— to be the readers of six transcription poems written specifically for each of them. these are six people (of many, of course) who i admire and who have influenced me during my time in california— by way of their work as artists and musicians, conversations we've had, seeing them at shows, playing music with them, observing their kindness toward others, their ability to challenge me to think in new ways (without explicitly meaning to), and so on. we've become (and this isn't unique or special) part of one another's (mental) social space, which is filled with countless other voices, opinions, thoughts, works, decisions, of people and places both dead and alive. some aspects of this we're aware of and some we're not. this space— which i'm fascinated by— is both imaginative and real (or makes those things fuzzy). it is hard to pin down or know what's what when consciously exploring it. maybe it is this cluelessness that i like. what i can intuit, however, is an intriguing sense of other-dimensional community and potential: an expansiveness, a kind of echoing of voices or thoughts across great distances that appear as offerings or suggestions of possible connection.

in this instance: i asked the above group to tell me what restaurant/food service place was their favorite and/or most frequented in santa clarita (where calarts is located). i used those locations as the six places for the act of transcribing (environmental dialogue) and writing (their to-be-embedded poems); a kind of peering into the everyday, yet marginal areas of our spaces, which may or may not intersect with one another. appearing between and bleeding into the readings are short noise tracks, cut up from a set performed by some friends (isaac, ben, me). it is a focused dive into our (mental) social spaces and, in a way, an odd trace of my time there, in LA, and of these people.

the poems that i wrote in those spaces were sestinas— somewhat complicated form-driven poems that rotate six specific words at the end of each line. this formal decision allowed me not only to contrast the more chaotic and pseudo-random transcriptions, but also to choose six words, per person, that i associated with their artistic work. i then proceeded to fill the rest of the poem with content influenced by my own interests and the environment in which i wrote, all interacting with the six rotating anchor-words of the sestina. per the directions, the formal poems were then 'dissolved' in the larger transcription blocks.

thus— much like watching for the point sugar dissolves into water— there is a limit of perception, a threshold of sorts, that flickers between the transcription and the poem, often obscuring which is which.

Luke Martin

*Reading Group*

Double Cassette Release

Total Runtime: 2 hours, 43 minutes, 2 seconds

Tracklist:

**Tape 1**

*Side A (44:14)*

1. introduction: tim tsang (5:43)
2. sucking stone I (1:50)
3. mom can cook (santa clarita, ca), for tim tsang (20:09)
4. sucking stone II (3:19)
5. honu coffee (santa clarita, ca), for amy golden (part 1) (13:13)

*Side B (35:29)*

5. honu coffee (santa clarita, ca), for amy golden (part 2) (13:12)
6. sucking stone III (0:53)
7. dink's (santa clarita, ca), for ben levinson (21:24)

**Tape 2**

*Side A (40:47)*

8. sucking stone IV (0:55)
9. siam rice II (santa clarita, ca), for isaac aronson (16:31)
10. sucking stone V (0:44)
11. siam rice I (santa clarita, ca), for fernando orellana (part 1) (22:00)

*Side B (42:32)*

11. siam rice I (santa clarita, ca), for fernando orellana (part 2) (5:00)
12. sucking stone VI (0:13)
13. saugus café (santa clarita, ca), for jordan dykstra (35:56)
14. outro (1:23)

*mom can cook. santa clarita, ca.  
for tim tsang*

—

**instructions for reading:**

with high inflection (as in a somewhat animated conversation) while reading the phrases, where natural. somewhat consistent dynamic (audible / normal reading volume).

the poem is split into six sections,  
each with nine stanzas.

the speed with which you read should increase based on how many lines are in a stanza, and should start from a relatively slow pace at the beginning of each new stanza.

when finished with a page,  
pause for about 4–8 seconds.

if a page turn is needed, pause for 2–3 seconds, turn the page (audibly), wait for 2–3 more seconds, and then begin reading.

*mom can cook. santa clarita, ca.  
for tim tsang*

oh yeah

ireland  
it happened

get the  
fahrenheit  
one hundred ten

one hundred sixty  
too hot  
are you ready  
pad thai with chicken  
flat figures



many points  
sliding along  
non-material cages  
chopsticks with noodles  
how are you doing  
two  
two right  
hi

to order  
dressing  
yes  
yeah  
do you want  
easy  
on my terms  
some people  
let it get hot  
it's hot  
sixty  
only temporal  
park

to drink  
for three  
yes  
thanks  
better structurally  
stronger  
we know  
out  
first in line  
slower  
uh  
can't stop  
alright  
hi  
it's less efficient than solar cells  
thirty years ago  
people  
bars measured between  
hands of our chosen clocks  
hello  
this is before  
solar cells

online  
she coming  
she's coming  
okay  
see  
would you like  
exactly  
january first  
april tenth  
i uh  
i uh  
hot day  
come back  
or rather assigned  
no difference  
flat figures define language  
maybe for someone  
solar stock rising  
goodbye now  
working  
if you get top marks  
he said  
came out of  
grandma wants me to  
pepper rolls  
one dish  
two  
seems like you  
in the corner  
that one  
thank you  
by these temporal situations  
that one  
thank you  
no i already pushed that  
solar powered air  
wow  
hold on  
please  
i really don't  
no island  
here it is  
alright  
we made a mistake  
it's so hard  
to name it  
many clock hands prodding questions

our bad

wait for me  
take your time

you don't need to rush  
oh no we do need to rush  
someone's gonna leave

oh oh i'm sorry  
we have to go home because  
has to leave  
okay okay  
part

why  
you doing good  
your food gonna get cold  
ah no it's too hot right now  
put your homework away  
ah it's not homework  
okay  
hi

over there  
one  
oh  
washed up  
you can sit here  
sauce  
memories of questions  
talking about it  
yeah  
hell yeah  
oh hi  
speaking  
hi

hi  
she did it all over  
everything okay so far  
yup  
yup  
she didn't get in  
learning that  
think of it like this  
yeah so we went to  
he said  
soft spaces  
hollow spaces  
caged  
hot air  
no  
no  
good  
first thing

one entering the race  
i wanna do  
so it's like  
want rice with that  
side of the  
you want to know what you can have  
fried rice  
egg fried rice  
so right after coming back  
flat figures situated  
it was hard  
i was working for a tv show  
can you believe it  
so  
so what i was doing  
so  
hi  
it's so hot  
pass faster  
oh my god  
hi  
speak  
full of that  
that way  
to gauge movements through time  
grab some things  
like people would ask  
we have soup  
if your name is  
iced thai  
oh he's not  
too long  
it's not bad  
i like that  
no no  
it's a lullaby  
when am i gonna see the house  
right  
so good  
i thought  
language  
he slides it  
hello  
how are you  
how many are you  
text me



two large

hi  
how can i help you

three  
come on in  
hi how are you

this way please  
four nine  
i'll put the rest on the card  
in the end  
all same

hands and clocks  
freedom  
that type  
john  
i'm a big fan  
to be honest  
soon to be famous  
everything

i mean clothes  
no no  
she vibes with him  
hi grab a table  
this looks like  
somewhere with no walls  
so they just  
grabbed the bill  
i got two larges  
have to work  
yeah  
it just seems hard  
i know

that's like nasty  
doctor  
um i'm gonna  
i'll have the dark  
no it's an aerial cabin  
hurtling back  
forth  
clocking  
so she just  
okay so  
his name  
what can i get you  
okay thank you  
say  
i've never had  
okay stop  
yeah

really cold  
french guy  
so there's this thing with five fingers  
bye  
thank you  
turns  
twitches  
questions  
high school  
like i know there was something  
hi how are you  
it was impossible  
yeah  
especially since i know  
we know  
but i didn't have  
no  
don't sleep  
everybody  
it hurts  
until clock hand holds time  
schism  
language  
here you go  
did you order something  
he takes some  
not staying in your house  
i never really  
you're running  
well three years ago we got really  
it's awesome  
held hand holding even  
a cage  
the back door  
so um  
so we  
unless they were paying you  
i didn't know that  
well to find out  
she said you had to  
oh well they sell sixty seventy hundred  
right here  
right  
even  
a bar even  
handles inside of time  
five thousand dollar

forty-six

a number  
so i know there's things

they don't know  
they're assholes  
pull it right from under

how's it going  
good  
i have to mean  
i stopped  
i stopped

crystallization structures  
situations  
hi  
only two  
one good  
nope a guy can merge with me  
yeah  
you said

a sound  
fly  
this is like  
goes way back  
if i'm going there  
is everything good  
yes  
yes thanks  
and potential situation  
yes  
and they made  
very lively  
score



discovery with that  
water  
use the water  
how can you start that  
you see  
when i say  
so it's officially far out  
this is far out there  
first apply this  
listen  
edges  
between clock  
you have to take back  
um yeah so  
when i'm like  
seven  
where

you got water  
almost done  
thanks  
ah can i get that  
oh yeah  
the thai tea  
yeah open it  
a condo  
walked past the little shit  
casino  
ticks  
the hand now holds silent  
the edge at whatever time  
so sit down and wait  
i like it  
what you do is  
this table  
while we were like  
get better  
yeah  
it was great  
i love  
so that was the week i'd been gone  
whoa  
so  
we didn't do anything with these  
we want it to be  
stumbling toward questions  
i rented a  
you're right  
i decided  
exxon might  
now i got to  
an hour  
can you believe that  
please sit down  
my lunch  
stop by  
that's fine  
i went out last night with ron  
outside time  
this weekend he like  
no more  
yes so connor  
he told him he did it  
see her  
ah they danced

so uh

a dream  
all in

i went all in  
yeah all moms  
no i got bats

adjacent  
everything's okay  
you're working alright  
language  
yes

thanks  
okay okay  
it's the real package  
i was like wow  
my local salmon  
that's fucking funny  
right  
such a psycho

it's pressing  
gotta do this and then  
what the hell  
yeah almost everything  
it's the real package  
how the fuck did you know  
yet within language  
i get that sass  
he was saying  
good  
recipe  
please  
oh yeah

child  
there was even different studio space  
the word  
again  
no  
talk to me  
time  
situationally  
what about me  
too much  
did you fall  
my idea of  
i gotta  
look what i found  
walk  
same one  
paper towel for me

so if i see him  
indifferent  
immanent  
caged  
that's a relief  
you need to show him  
it's red  
uh-oh  
one time we did this thing  
sharknado  
uncaged  
clocked  
how is your chicken  
got it grilled  
he's so cute  
first one  
first one  
half  
breathe twice  
you have that walk  
you know  
unclocked  
questioned  
to sit  
yeah that's the best  
no no  
i just ordered  
bye  
bye  
say bye  
bye  
what do we want to get out of it  
lots of spice  
unquestioned  
timed  
the games  
out  
but that was what i'm gonna do  
thinking about it  
fight  
badass  
walk around  
like your mom said  
untimed  
in fact  
no time is particularly relevant  
no language

i'm just derivative

hey there  
how are you



anyway  
your work  
come on in

lost money  
he always stays home at this time  
babysit the dog  
is particularly relevant  
no question

yeah  
okay  
yeah we'll take some home  
you mean you'll  
yeah thanks  
um  
i think we'll partake  
is particularly relevant

no situation  
an iced tea  
an opera  
his hair was  
i don't know  
hey  
okay  
nerves are a bit  
yeah yeah yeah  
this hour  
is particularly relevant  
no clock  
and they're

and it's like  
to experience that  
so i had the  
really  
dynamic  
wonder if i could try the  
water  
film  
showed the boss  
is particularly relevant  
no cage  
honey have you looked  
our place  
i didn't take it  
what happened to your knee  
bernie won  
is particularly relevant

it should be said  
time  
oh they don't serve salmon fried rice  
how are you  
how are you  
oh great  
get a drink  
hey  
hey  
you made it  
so nice to see you  
you guys  
bye  
bye  
have a great night  
you can grow up  
thank you  
no that's it  
okay thank you  
is a thing is language  
so should we say  
will this do  
i like a lot of  
can i have a box  
a box  
that'd be great  
cool  
thanks  
drive  
what would you like  
clock is a thing is situation  
tell me about the pork tender  
it sounds good  
i don't like using it  
i don't like  
they're a natural  
fried rice  
question is a thing is time is a thing is caged  
i mean  
here you go  
the rice cooked  
yeah we can share it  
can you get the rice for her and then  
which one  
in the salmon fried rice  
yeah  
i can have them



*honu coffee. santa clarita, ca.  
for amy golden*

—

**instructions for reading:**

with medium to high inflection while reading the phrases, where natural.  
somewhat consistent dynamic (audible / normal reading volume).

the poem is split into six sections,  
each with nine stanzas.  
the speed with which you read should increase based on how many lines are in a stanza, and should start from a relatively slow pace at the beginning of each new stanza.

when finished with a page,  
pause for about 4–8 seconds.  
if a page turn is needed, pause for 2–3 seconds, turn the page (audibly), wait for 2–3 more seconds, and then begin reading.

*honu coffee. santa clarita, ca.  
for amy golden*

i'll be

so going  
so that's why



i miss it  
does this match  
hey guys can i take your

í'm a small  
passion tea  
small  
oh sorry  
passion tea

passion tea  
a regular  
it's just so like  
we were really close  
throw it out  
no problem  
twenty-two bulbs bare  
tug at sundown

sprawled furniture  
i started doing  
i started with  
like volunteering  
wait  
starting doing  
in your head  
told you  
you know  
so yeah  
it feels so hard  
thank you  
hi how are you

good thanks  
two you had  
fire and your head  
caramel latte  
office ceiling tiles  
tiny holes  
incisions  
hundreds of tiny needles  
what are you doing  
are you eating that  
so i stopped that  
yeah no problem  
thank you  
cold brew  
thank you  
she is  
i know  
a fix up  
can you help me  
iced coffee  
a small iced coffee

she is supposed  
thank you  
tinkle toward chessboard floor  
carry  
and every time  
um should i get the  
regular  
can i get an iced latte  
cha cha cha cha chai  
vanilla shake  
here you go  
thank you  
what's up man  
what  
thank you  
i had to prove it right  
decaf cold brew  
i've never seen  
i was born  
thank you  
me toward  
empty  
between piles  
i like that  
don't go  
i mean just  
the day  
iced chai  
you're mine  
yes ma'am  
that was so much fun  
the summer  
i can go back  
yeah

i'll be there  
like really  
like yeah  
who has the cardboard box  
that's okay  
it's so  
did you say that  
i was born  
of those who rise in unclear forms  
distinguishable only by blazing scissors  
though you can't see  
large cold brew with almond milk  
that coffee with soy should be back right now  
she's waiting for  
i moved here when i was  
a different solution  
i once had  
yeah  
or i went to that place  
wow  
you know that  
okay you know what there's like different  
blazing flesh flutterings  
small scorched things  
okay  
here we go  
i've only been here for two years  
that's interesting  
so i'm  
so i'm  
so i was with you know visiting  
back to my house for  
i didn't know well  
high school was just really  
sounds good  
so  
like  
our conversations  
got a surfing  
it's personal  
i have a drip coffee  
chai latte  
like last time  
oh that's so stupid  
he's like me  
cappuccino  
oh look guys  
guys  
okay just read this

so that was it

more coffee  
that's me trying to make decisions

it's really tiny  
no but like it's the same  
hi

slowly drape below  
my broken things  
how does he do it  
it's like super solid  
i stopped

it was fine  
but like soft  
jesus  
is this the one i was talking about  
like the church was  
she kinda  
we went through this thing  
they just went off

yes  
this sunday  
why not this sunday  
like tomorrow  
scatter among furniture  
newhall refinery  
i was just there last week  
because it's my birthday  
wait what day  
i was so like oh no  
i maybe  
what did i say  
one time my brother



like word  
i have a banana nut muffin  
hit me again  
oh the banana nut muffin is  
so my first  
pull together  
attach at invisible hinges  
condense into many miniature flesh-scissor  
i sit on the porch  
baby  
that week is so bad  
yeah he is  
his mom and my mom went to school together  
like they've been friends for a long time  
i know  
which is like a big thing  
he's just old enough  
he's so awesome  
he plays guitar  
cold brew  
what's up dude

seas  
shifting  
sighing  
through fallen needles  
there's so many things we could talk about  
i don't know it seems really fake  
she like  
every time she smells like  
where is her shirt  
walking not driving  
no shirt on  
no shoes  
oh i was just in mexico  
even growing up  
iced coffee  
clatterings  
resonate still  
in groupings  
pilings  
and then like  
everyone's laughing  
won't you love me  
and i think that's better than  
he's so funny  
he's like  
light on the ice with that  
light ice  
yeah  
okay  
how did you like  
what's the  
light ice soy latte  
not smart  
i have no idea

and  
with mute response  
ask to be carried  
hey  
it's a hashtag  
like hashtag  
what time tonight  
yes  
so sassy  
i need to take a shower  
i need to pee  
first of all the bathroom smells bad  
second of all  
they're not home  
well sounds like a you problem  
i just went to the backyard and  
it happens  
see ya  
have a good day  
javier  
this is the best coffee  
people are everywhere  
sorry anna  
that bathroom  
my parents  
right  
it's just weird  
is it just drip out here  
we're like showering  
it's been here for a while  
did you pour this drip  
two weeks later  
i'm so proud of you  
no  
i beg to be carried  
wait that's so nice  
great job  
job well done  
cold drip  
where are you going  
oh ya  
the loudest thing  
may i please have two  
no  
you literally  
um two iced white chocolate mocha  
actually no let's do one  
thanks

shot of

bro  
yeah it's like a hundred of something

do we leave things  
how you doing  
really good

yeah  
dude  
oh that was so fun  
it was fun  
and cute

like five or six  
extra-large  
want whipped cream on that  
yeah  
yeah you're all good  
hi  
hey how's it going  
good

what was your name again  
might be under gabriel  
so someone can slip into a pile  
or gabby  
here you go  
it was nice to meet you  
yes we have it  
it's so much better  
try to catch it  
so there's that for you  
it's just a  
that place is super appropriate  
we'll have that right out for you guys

ah i gave you the wrong one  
passion tea  
of 'things of so-and-so'  
further categorized into 'dishware'  
'clothes'  
'furniture'  
here's a passion tea  
no  
passion tea  
someone got a passion tea  
poor guy  
so the only one's i have  
that's so silly  
let me get the  
and ask  
it's cystic fibrosis  
i don't  
because you know  
where she is  
do you want cream on that  
it's okay

large iced latte with whipped cream  
'work'  
'memories'  
rattlings  
flesh-strip-scissors combine with needles  
like i get  
we both were like definitely  
it's a mix for me  
it's really quiet  
we should definitely be  
iced coffee  
so bad  
yeah  
that actually worked  
there she is  
but honestly you're probably  
you're like  
you're actually working  
it's just like  
i'm not trying to talk bad  
flesh-needle scissors or  
conversely  
needle-flesh scissors  
i'm not trying to talk bad at all  
i just feel like a lot of times  
you're just like  
it's hard for me  
we have more tax id dollars  
to get to be  
chai iced please  
i just feel like  
i just can't stop it  
it's not a problem  
wait



just so you know  
hello  
i'm sorry  
and what do i get  
oh really  
wait no  
okay thank you  
so we left at like seven  
i definitely was zipping through traffic  
i was in the line of duty  
iced dirty chai  
hi how are you  
what if he left me with like  
iced dirty chai  
mom  
oh my god  
oh fun  
you haven't left  
let us say there is no sharpness to these scissors  
i never  
obviously  
like i never  
this should be  
i love  
and i love talking to you  
but the other day  
do you know how much  
twenty-five  
thank you so much  
thank you  
no no no  
yeah, are you gonna work  
what did this  
i saw the girl  
they are dull  
they do not ask to be carried  
this was literally on the spot  
i need to know right now  
i'm sorry  
it's really hard like  
cause it's gross  
latte  
still best friends  
and actually i  
like i  
i was like you can  
who i am

i won't give up

on us  
even if the sky

gets rough  
their needle parts  
pointless

remain  
somehow  
themselves  
needles  
still looking up

still looking up  
he's the guy who lost  
i know you're worth it  
yup nothing to do  
and i was like oh maybe dinner at some point  
and no  
he was like yup  
i like love you

yeah finally i was like  
really good  
and she was like  
you're my friend  
hi how are you  
i'm feeling  
they are almost-things  
oh yeah  
what the heck  
hi how are you  
the last one  
bye see you  
and then last one is fifteen

and it's eleven dollars each time  
what is this  
yeah  
i'll get the  
did you want anything else  
can you do that  
thanks guys  
thank you  
i was just  
oh okay  
not yet furniture  
oh something  
okay good to know  
it's so much  
i feel like a lot  
are you guys  
it was just  
thank you  
yeah  
there's lots of places  
excuse me please

i can't breathe  
sorry  
my friend  
she did this  
hi um no by like yesterday  
i got here  
same thing  
i'm really ashamed of how long  
edges to a pile  
on wednesday i was here for six and a half hours  
that like scream is the most funniest scream i've ever heard in my life  
like hands down  
my summer is gone  
oh i will  
i will  
i'll go with  
it looks like  
change  
large iced  
we don't have that  
so like  
the fourteenth hanging bulb  
counting from the left  
burned out  
beckons in piles  
thank you for being  
so like i wonder if we could do a little inquiry  
to find out how it would potentially be to get  
next year  
yeah i mean  
okay  
i was doing so well  
yeah  
completely trust

oh my god  
today is my last day  
that's awesome though  
i don't want my house to be  
below but not around  
scissors  
yeah  
last night  
they're really old  
hey matt question  
do you know what they're doing  
hello  
hey hey hey  
would not shop there  
how you doing  
how are you  
my mind like shuts off  
you just thought of this  
yeah  
and so when you  
sounds like  
respond  
slice strings above  
bulbs cascade to furniture  
that too  
i'll see you around  
chillin as they say mon  
it was terrible  
i need a large  
and then they served me back to  
whoa whoa whoa  
is it good  
yeah it's full of vanilla  
ah okay  
seeing you  
it's always the same color  
snuffed  
shatter and insert themselves  
jagged  
into flesh now carried  
i started going there  
the one page  
snakes  
i just want some  
i talked to shelby about it  
i don't think it'll be  
the situation  
i slept in

vanilla

thank you  
it's one of those things that happens



moment  
here we are  
iced

thank you  
your favorite  
just a good day to work  
we said that we were talking  
into thing-filled world

processes also things  
oh yeah  
you go to master's right  
what's your name  
nice to meet ya  
ya um  
right  
well kind of

okay  
when you get a chance to give me  
so you almost got into a fight  
so i was thinking about iced coffee  
and uh order  
into needle-filled world  
processes also needles  
i've always said  
so uh  
is that your  
haven't talked to you  
do you know  
me

brother  
you good you good  
done with you guys  
nina  
nina  
nina  
what  
cause i  
wow  
did you get any  
no i'm good  
my body is turning into the shape of  
i love your hair  
i am now  
her fault  
i like it too  
no look  
don't forget  
i always see you  
every two months  
two months

just go into her work  
were you there  
oh shelby  
i met her once and the next day she was like cassie  
she's the nicest person  
alright two  
bye  
say bye to you  
listen to the needles  
yeah it's good  
oh yeah thanks  
this is it  
yeah he's told me  
whoa  
it's scary but it's exciting  
iced americano  
it's true  
that's so cool  
yesterday  
so cool  
really  
i was actually  
i'll never forget  
this is why i  
firefighters  
so when i was five  
so i got in a fire  
listen to the needles forming and unforming needle-piles  
a huge one  
jump off the bed  
and then i did it a lot  
and i fell  
and my head was crashed through  
stitches here

my arm  
this goes all the way around  
my dad was holding on  
it was like off  
you could see my bones  
you could see everything  
so  
i remember  
it was this guy  
his title  
listen to the pile-things  
okay so my  
crush on him  
he was like how are you feeling  
yup  
and i still have his number  
i was in high school and every day he came by  
he was my first love  
that's why i have these scars  
can i get the caramel  
i was like oh wow  
okay my mom still remembers it  
groan up  
down  
outside us  
inside us  
welcome the slicing blazings of scissors  
and two  
surgery i had no idea  
i was sleepy  
it's probably different for everybody  
because you are super  
get out of your shell  
alright  
oh  
alright  
how's it going  
so you would dress up  
like the auditorium area  
yeah  
i had to perform in front of hundreds of people  
they carry  
and i just  
feels like  
i know right  
chai  
okay the baby or like  
diapers

that was why

really  
where was this

caramel frappe  
he did  
do me

stop  
what about you  
honestly i used to be pretty  
not like where  
kinda thing  
i was like um

it's really hard cause  
us  
invisible  
like furniture  
i don't know what happened  
besides tights  
that was something  
so i'll try everything

i remember  
cause you're constantly moving  
no  
never  
yeah  
there are some people who do that all the time  
hard right  
there was this one guy  
so i used to play the guitar  
really  
i would get this  
no way  
that's super awesome



i'll sing while you play guitar  
but there was this one guy  
when i was a teen  
it was my first time  
do want any room in there  
it sounded like  
it was my voice cracking  
and then the rest of the song  
i was like  
needling gently  
severing us along our serrations  
scissors  
hey how's it going  
have a good day guys  
it was the coolest thing ever  
yeah i went because i was so comfortable with everything  
wow  
that was at  
i'm going to  
i'm supposed to bring  
he's awesome

i looked over  
it was  
but it was i don't know  
he responded  
i think that was the best part  
clatter around silence carried  
i like  
i don't know  
it was the coolest  
it was just like  
we went to go  
i'm almost done  
ring a bell  
get your shoes  
climb a fence  
i start walking back and right across the street  
literally across the street  
gas station  
thanks  
now it's time to go  
between the piles  
the things  
us  
furniture  
now it's time to go  
here you go  
show and tell  
good how you doing  
i'm trying to decide between the hot and cold  
what  
watch for three years  
this kid  
in the market  
might beat him too

let's get one of each and split it  
it sounds really awesome  
it's a fatal thing  
gotta split  
one two three four  
you want me to get it so you can eat it all  
that's how it works right  
go away  
up  
one bite  
so there's this  
free  
i just remember there's  
she was this  
i will  
i will wait i will wait for you  
yeah  
how's it going guys  
good how are you  
doing well  
you forgive and i won't forget  
some way  
i will wait i will wait for you  
i will wait i will wait for you  
and they bring the thing  
he is  
thank you  
do you have any friends  
i'd like a tsunami  
can i just get a medium coffee  
two-eighty  
like i want  
i always wanted a golden  
yeah  
my favorite  
let my spirit go  
coffee  
i will wait i will wait for you  
what did you  
i will wait i will wait for you  
thank you  
thank you  
she's just a  
i will wait i will wait for you  
oh that's fucking weird  
they're so weird  
i love mustard



*dink's deli and bakery. santa clarita, ca.*  
*for ben levinson*

—

**instructions for reading:**

with medium inflection while reading the phrases,  
where natural.  
somewhat consistent dynamic (audible / normal  
reading volume).

the poem is split into six sections,  
each with nine stanzas.  
the speed with which you read should increase based on  
how many lines are in a stanza, and should start from a  
relatively slow pace at the beginning of each new stanza.

when finished with a page,  
pause for about 4–8 seconds.  
if a page turn is needed, pause for 2–3 seconds, turn the  
page (audibly), wait for 2–3 more seconds, and then  
begin reading.

*dink's deli and bakery. santa clarita, ca.  
for ben levinson*

i really want like beer

i don't care about that grade  
calc will get me into math class

what's your major  
engineering  
a lot of math

i wanna get a five on the calc  
we are a group  
then i won't have to do any math in college  
for me to actually get credit i need a four  
what



what  
i heard  
for what  
you send your transcripts  
tests  
you took  
in the test you can send it directly  
now

location  
activity  
maybe community  
i want the bug  
i want the bug  
where's the bug  
last year i didn't know  
get one  
get one  
as soon as they get it  
not a bad idea  
thank you  
you're welcome

still space between echoes  
i can get more so  
i don't even need to pay  
this freakin coffee  
and we found a pill bug  
and he said pill bugs are not bugs  
and i said but pill bugs are bugs  
there's bug in the name  
partially touching minds  
bodies  
aw you missed him  
i have a test  
you okay bud  
there's nobody  
you got it  
no classes after  
good job  
did you not go to the AP thing  
test  
did you find the pill bug  
sauntered

wet  
failing connection  
there's a mommy and a baby  
you don't wanna separate a mommy and a baby  
it's like double purpose  
today  
sleep  
oversleeping  
i'm like okay  
my alarm still goes off at 5:40  
wait wait wait  
let's go back  
experiment  
your alarm goes off at 5:40?  
don't wake up then  
sometimes  
it reminds me  
okay try  
go find one  
three  
four  
oh three  
i have to take my brother to school  
woke up at six  
just fall out of bed into your clothes

that'd be pretty cool if that actually worked  
falling out of your bed  
into your clothes  
you  
right now  
i just had to get up at 7:40 to take my brother to school  
physical test for golf  
connecting is always experimental  
all freshman have to do a running test  
we did it  
for baseball  
the second one  
but i had to do weight room  
body conditioning  
second semester  
yeah  
oh what a conundrum  
whether grouping or grouped  
morning  
eight  
grabbed the balls  
jump on the ball  
pull-up  
funniest thing  
you can work that out  
i lifted in body conditioning  
alright well  
good job  
running days

or between connecting

fuck no  
let's go again

i don't wanna run  
i can ride a bike  
i was in such better shape

yeah  
what did you say  
okay but we're all naturally more athletic than daniel  
you're so cute  
the pill bugs

nowhere communities  
they're not really bugs  
i was actually really special  
he's a long distance runner  
i was able to keep up with him  
what's he doing with the bugs  
heart attack  
me and dj

oh isaiah  
not in the flowers baby  
where murmurs and bodies  
you can't take the plants  
that's very sweet  
that's very nice of you  
good thinking  
we're looking for bugs  
i don't really like  
wanna go to a park with more dirt and more bugs  
sound as loud as their echoes  
you want more bugs?  
back to school

riding a bike  
two blocks  
i always have to drive to school  
you drove  
not to elementary  
i never walked to hartt  
no to  
small pond  
drove to  
all the traffic  
i'd be there by the time you got in the car  
there  
walking  
i've walked like twice  
yeah he wants to go to a park where we can find bugs  
okay we're gonna go to michael's first  
my own doubtful echoing  
dance of something  
dried eggs  
oh you want me to  
right there

you see that  
disgusting  
we're supposed to take our plates in  
i think we should  
in case have to walk far  
look at that  
now reaching with runny eggs  
experimenting  
pushing the door  
thank you sir  
that's how you do it  
you're welcome  
you ready  
yeah  
i was like um no because my sister  
yeah she's half  
and seeing my sister  
with dark yellow  
congealing in cream cheese  
my plate a community of bodies  
where are we going daddy  
momma look

yeah baby  
that's so much more  
yours baby  
second place  
somebody  
perfect  
so much dirt  
in the air  
cut or hot  
coffee  
hot  
looks pretty hot coming  
fired  
crusted  
into this particular potential group  
you shoulda seen greg on the golf course yesterday  
he hits one and it goes about halfway to the hole  
chips it  
fifty yards out  
right in the hole  
virtual hole in one  
more poked than prodded  
communicating  
virtual huh?  
and then putts it  
goes in  
impossible  
lawn mower  
i mean



take it on each other

i tried and i couldn't keep up  
well i just had all the tools yesterday

through forced leakings  
distorted connections  
it was a lucky day

did you have fun  
always fun  
where you going  
take my  
well yeah

so that's good  
way past my  
she runs for  
oh you know  
man with burned face  
blue dodgers hat  
dark glasses  
passing

perhaps connected  
yeah  
we did  
we got the  
jeff used to work there  
cash too  
i think i quit  
heartburn  
does take the joy out of it  
have you had the breakfast burrito  
no  
i've had the breakfast sandwich and it's pretty good  
to my sausage link

white mesh headsock  
covering all but eyeholes  
echoing  
you know  
we haven't been there in a while  
service  
new owner  
oh yeah  
yeah  
she was really on top of it  
and even the next family  
husband  
but um  
no just  
and they said  
i don't know  
we're just  
over easy egg  
torn  
mucus covered shoulder  
puss

this community  
yesterday  
they have the best coffee they've ever had in their life  
they had mexican coffee  
best  
chocolate  
make their own coffee  
this is the best  
in her life  
is this still the owners  
just changed hands  
exists  
barely  
an experiment  
about a year ago  
new guy and apparently his father  
oh sure  
anyway  
homeboy people  
he fell asleep  
yeah  
yeah

she said  
they're not bad  
these people  
oh okay  
that was the impression she gave me  
in extensions  
a group  
she went there a couple weeks ago  
just opened  
library  
training people  
took forever  
this morning they had it down  
i figure  
all those people in the church  
probably not gonna eat that  
consumed  
organized bodies  
okay i'll take that  
smells good  
what kind of bagel  
sit down  
oh my gosh  
you gonna snack all evening  
have to have cookies or something  
while i watch tv  
disintegrating my body  
ice cream  
oreos

that's okay

yes  
that's great thanks

oh yeah could i have a little salsa  
supposed to come with a little salsa  
what's in your cream cheese

chives  
oh wow  
wow  
wow  
melting connections

they have all colors  
all colors  
all flavors  
cream cheese  
anyway  
oh it's right there  
we were just gonna make these little funky oreo cookies for this party  
half red

and i go  
thanks very much for that  
with searing pain  
acidic groups  
we have the whole thing of cookies left  
get rid of those oh well it is a blessing  
visiting her other sister  
oh my gosh she gets around  
i think so  
that's just amazing  
forging echoes  
course now she probably has grandchildren  
a whole den-full



butter  
depends  
that's the secret  
can't travel  
every year they seem the same  
and they love it  
they all knew each other  
slippery condensation drip drop  
breakfast-body-experiment  
well that's okay  
valium  
right there  
looks like  
trailers  
go like this  
that's just amazing to me  
in the middle of the desert  
a little while  
i guess you feel lucky that you have that  
i think we should start a retirement community out there  
bagel remembers egg puncture

a community  
little miniature houses  
oh yeah yeah yeah  
we could make a golf course  
a miniature golf course  
not miniature golf  
mini-golf  
i never went there  
not a good corner to turn on  
when i was playing golf  
wasn't golf  
little kid miniature golfing  
really short  
chip shots  
you guys  
i read that too  
yeah  
overgrown  
car wash there  
i don't know how they ever stayed together  
i mean i don't know  
maybe

oil change here you go  
inside my community  
you know the  
that's amazing  
have lunch  
fast food  
french grill  
family  
stupid location  
Italian restaurant at the corner  
i like it  
do i smell  
one or two  
a couple of times  
of selves  
bodies  
they could take care of that  
you're funny  
brought sweaters  
freezing in here  
go back  
every  
every  
they didn't think  
same thing  
had like seventy  
good morning  
my pleasure  
might need to leave the air on

organs

self-experiment  
people come in to eat

i think that's its problem  
we went to that one in  
somewhere

good  
extra airplane  
just jennifer  
two kids  
i feel sorry for them

forty-three  
at the time  
teething  
in connection-  
probably more in costa rica  
water in  
take it in the pool  
she could get it

got that shit down there  
special pancakes  
allergies  
they have problems  
canned and almond milk  
you know that stuff in  
yeah  
you what  
echo  
milk that cows make  
you don't have to have holy goat cheese  
i can't tell the difference  
a little sweeter maybe  
we actually prefer that

never  
twice  
as far as i can tell  
just wait till somebody gets inside  
groups  
has to be a certified griller  
you know i've been thinking  
things that are horrible  
things that are regular  
don't worry about it  
i understand  
really careful  
really careful  
by the time i started  
didn't have all the stuff  
brick  
there it goes  
anybody want some  
oops  
sure  
here you can take this too

she came back  
well-trained  
are you kidding  
well-trained  
sometimes you know she wanders  
white mask  
blue hat  
returns  
our eyes connect  
i have to check  
he trained me well  
i've only seen parts of it  
those are the twilight days  
that was like mexico  
the things  
secrets  
probably why he keeps it secret  
bodies pass as usual  
communities grope  
feeling of echoes  
bagel for him

he said  
like racist  
alright  
oh yeah  
never missed  
what was that  
thanks  
yeah  
absolute worst drive  
blocks and blocks  
anyway that's what i used to do out here  
what's up  
inside me  
maybe him  
unlikely  
they leave  
dissipate  
ungroup  
regroup  
expense  
it's a dog  
look  
very good  
because no  
here you go  
close friend  
no  
a little close to friday isn't it?  
how do you know how she is

she says a little bit

thanks  
she can't walk



are you working constantly  
get over it  
thank you

glad i was out in the car  
door open  
it's amazing how the sound travels  
carries from the valley  
got the freeway

do you hear the freeway  
you probably don't hear the freeway  
when i'm trying  
i hear it  
at night  
that's when i notice  
it's just this constant  
like white noise

the other night  
i could hear that  
i fell asleep  
maybe on the old road  
maybe on pico canyon  
oh thank you very much  
service  
that's what we get  
i remember they did a study on road noise  
air noise  
engine noise  
oh yeah i've seen that  
noise

he said the noise on the freeways  
and so they tried to figure out  
oh my gosh  
concrete that would be silent  
interesting  
i'm sure the motor on some cars  
and you know  
diesels  
huh  
imagine parents  
but you know  
reduce the sound  
those are  
bacon  
everyone but us  
it's pretty loud up there  
the house is really close to the freeway up there  
i remember sally's house  
you could really hear it up there  
that's weird  
usually call

best buy  
morning  
what  
i could hear it  
lows  
low  
railroad  
it blows  
blows one two three times  
i take a shower in the morning  
i just know the fact that his sister is down  
like five or six  
thanks guys  
brought me down  
they virtually  
they were like you can't stop  
i was like ya but i stopped doing all that stuff before  
we were taking it down  
it was two-thirty  
oh my gosh  
everybody was driving by  
get it out of my system

in like september  
i'm like we can talk about that stuff  
but i've talked all i want  
this is who i am  
take off  
i wonder how that works  
i'm still mad about some of that stuff  
give up on your recovery  
when you like give up  
then i remember  
i don't think he should drink more  
maybe he couldn't  
the last thing i had  
and i was just like  
i know  
i don't drink that much  
you know  
i wasn't drinking rum  
that's worse  
oh my god  
and then they go  
so i'll probably take that after  
and then like  
the car  
so anyway he's going  
by the time i was  
right so screw it  
no cups  
no cups



*siam rice I. santa clarita, ca.  
for fernando orellana*

—

**instructions for reading:**

with low inflection (as in a conversation) while reading the phrases, where natural.  
somewhat consistent dynamic (audible / normal reading volume).

the poem is split into six sections,  
each with nine stanzas.

the speed with which you read should increase based on how many lines are in a stanza, and should start from a relatively slow pace at the beginning of each new stanza.

when finished with a page,  
pause for about 4–8 seconds.

if a page turn is needed, pause for 2–3 seconds, turn the page (audibly), wait for 2–3 more seconds, and then begin reading.

*siam rice I. santa clarita, ca.  
for fernando orellana*

shoot

give me my money back  
four



fifteen  
thank you guys  
see you later right

bye bye  
customer  
what  
thai iced tea  
thanks

hey i want  
good  
to move toward revolution  
what  
what's up bro  
fries  
honey  
i'm like ya i started watching that

awesome  
yeah she does  
hey  
how can you admit something  
like that  
i started to watch these two  
i couldn't  
i couldn't watch it  
is to move toward a retuning

the survey  
so i turned the power off  
couldn't play  
i watched one tape  
you know  
seven  
seven-fifteen  
i don't wanna stay late  
crappy  
you ready

can i have an orange chicken  
steamed rice  
of thoughts  
just the orange chicken  
how are you  
oh i like chicken  
bacon on it  
so i went with mango  
yeah  
unless you  
then everything is new

he's not just saying that  
alright little man  
cheese  
nine-thirty  
of community  
really  
thank you  
bye bye  
how come  
i don't know  
was it an  
eight

thing you put on  
dynamite  
it's decent  
go to bob's  
yes  
late  
about six-thirty  
what  
you know  
oh  
my doctor was early in the morning  
had just gotten up  
to answer your question

i'd give you a loud yes  
she enjoys it  
he enjoys it  
that's good  
he goes to the store  
to do stuff  
please  
people  
there is always underneath  
talk to june today  
no  
so you really don't talk to her everyday then  
yeah

i do  
in the morning  
but not today  
no  
sparking systematic  
rope snipping revulsions  
she's supposed to call me in the morning  
she called me last night  
you were in the car with us  
that was  
gonna do what  
she said  
chorizo  
passover

she's jewish

oh no no  
thai

synapse us up  
different frequencies  
detuned to

passover is when the jews left egypt  
moses  
seas  
when was that  
the answer

yeah he was taking  
yeah  
they also celebrate  
armenian genocide that the church said they didn't do  
thank you  
bye bye  
thank you guys  
your satisfaction

i don't mind commune  
bye  
thank you  
this is good  
you like it  
yes  
if you don't eat anymore you can eat it for lunch  
you deaf  
me?



not really  
alright  
the table  
hi how are you  
got nothing to do  
with body thoughts  
trump  
campaign  
i heard rumors that hillary wants trump to be vice president  
that'd be something

yeah wouldn't it  
hi can i help you  
biden  
he's just a stand by for when somebody kills obama  
still not enough  
left half felt  
and thought  
obama is over there  
the british  
stay  
i saw that

whatever it is  
third season  
europe  
euro  
did they go back to the pound  
why did obama do that  
make us go euro  
instead of dollar  
why  
euro troubles  
i don't know  
between

in fact  
underneath  
orange chicken  
alright  
thank you  
are you happy  
germany used to be marcs  
then pound  
grand  
francs  
france is francs  
how can i help you  
you want

makes sense to have one currency in europe  
between perspective  
always underneath  
lost communication  
countries are so close  
germany  
egypt  
france  
england is an island by itself  
remember when they tried to change our gasoline system  
liters  
they're still talking about it  
we had it once

precipitates revolutions  
didn't last  
hell  
didn't last at all  
meters versus inches  
change machinery  
tools  
bolts  
nuts  
screws  
yeah  
yup  
who would do that

kilos

miles per hour  
is that

what's the other one  
in communing  
tuned

meters  
no  
speed limit  
miles per hour  
oh oh

yeah  
yup  
kilos  
i don't know  
trying so hard  
the day gone by  
a week ago  
split this

he's late  
hey there  
what about it  
candle  
through  
unseen support  
both of us  
look at that  
food

metal  
you alright  
she always does this  
yeah one medium  
we live there we lose  
only  
if you've never seen  
thirty-five bucks  
not me  
i couldn't either

we need that  
this is very good  
half for me  
with a question mark  
yeah  
yeah  
should we go with that  
ever since  
the only really thing  
couple times she lost twenty bucks  
let's put it this way

she says she would  
away from of edge and center  
i am alone now  
a self-support  
we never see the money  
we do  
but we don't  
hi  
they don't last long  
still early  
not a lot of people here  
lot of food

need a box  
box  
two boxes  
that's our lunch tomorrow  
yeah  
box  
oh well  
can't bring that  
fraud  
free fraud  
thought  
so you've got your list  
what else you need



costco  
more bar soap  
that's it  
you have a full cabinet of that  
cereal  
some  
hi  
okay you're talking about the wheat  
what do you call 'em  
fraud  
they laugh  
stop  
tune

wheat  
wheat  
chips  
no salt chips  
are there two copies here  
thank you sir  
oh you want me to look at it  
out  
maybe that's worse  
when silence touches  
underneath  
what's it say  
in case we wanna dispute it

there's not that many people in here

we trust people  
i don't trust people

you'll be rewarded for being a good listener  
i said  
you'll be rewarded for being a good listener

my mind  
revolution  
twenty-six  
sixty-five  
get out

see  
listen  
you'll become  
listen this year  
thank you  
tell me what they have  
pork  
hot sauce

where is everybody  
passover  
they are coming  
too early  
crowded  
inducing death  
tuning death  
community  
starting to come in

how bout orders to-go  
still get a lot of those  
so people supposed to be  
yeah  
they're around  
thank you  
okay  
alright  
thank you  
thank you

bye bye  
when we get home  
i know where they are  
the toothpicks  
death  
no  
murmuring community  
in the kitchen  
we can get some  
i know  
leftovers

yeah there is one leftover  
really  
yeah  
you complain about the sponge  
i have no support  
you know the germs that are on that toothpick  
pluck  
the germs  
sorry  
come out  
you running  
they had told me otherwise

for so long  
hope of revolution  
bye  
see you next time  
say hi to the lady  
she's in Arizona  
forty-five years of marriage  
we decided we needed a little separation  
oh my  
just enough  
old story  
old thoughts  
other thoughts

no no  
she's with my daughter  
birthday  
house in the river  
sold  
going down there for her birthday  
not my thoughts  
rising from underneath  
but i had to take my father-in-law for check-up  
good excuse  
i didn't wanna go  
foreign bodies  
i was almost there

now lost  
stretch and tune  
people say  
where's sherry  
oh we're separated now  
too many people  
sons  
grandkids  
son  
his wife  
daughter  
husband  
friend

everybody's down there

oh i'm sorry  
by the river



everybody except you  
i like it here  
bye

have a good  
night  
bye  
thank you  
can i help you

one zero four  
phone rings  
answer  
yell  
discuss  
tune  
yes  
yes

the chicken  
meat  
uh yes  
that's different  
i got it  
wanna buy a  
no we  
yeah  
we have chicken sauté

rip  
murmur  
clink  
plastic bag  
community  
fried wontons  
four  
like  
yes  
but it

no another one is like um  
it's like a big piece  
talk  
foreign language  
engine rev  
fridge hum  
underneath  
shrimp  
like a shrimp-cake  
yeah  
very good

thank you for ordering  
last thai iced tea  
chicken  
teriyaki beef  
over rice  
can be  
i have another one  
car honk  
door open  
bell jingle  
new voices  
support

how often  
medium  
mama that's not good  
you like it  
it's okay  
hey  
twenty-nine  
um ok  
chair scratch  
new voices  
door open  
bell jingle  
think

here  
thank you  
just let me  
that'll be seventeen  
that's all set  
sauces  
thank you  
discuss  
money out  
coin jingle  
money taken  
revolution  
amazing

what kind of a  
yes  
thank you  
thank you  
okay  
okay  
you're lucky  
is everything okay  
would you like a glass of water or anything  
uh yeah a glass of water would be great  
hello  
yeah papa  
papa

chicken

this  
hi

hello  
i'm good  
at the top

seafood soup  
hello  
hi  
fried  
tuning

slap wood  
small talk  
numbers  
support  
yeah  
it's uh  
small  
just the thai tea

no  
yeah  
thank you  
and then  
you're all set  
rice  
rice  
community  
door open



bell jingle  
cashier open  
think  
i like the  
drinks  
rice  
mine  
my purse is like  
yeah i'm good  
six ninety-five

underneath  
money shuffles  
keys jingle  
thanks exchanged  
revolution  
squeeze  
one  
one  
your phone looks so good  
mine looks like a  
change it

number seven  
maybe if my service was better  
hey  
thai tea  
thank you  
thank you  
have a good day  
thanks  
thank you  
is it good  
for two  
yes

okay  
can you help me out  
mine  
on me  
shrimp  
ahi noodles  
thai  
shrimp  
yes please  
it's good  
wow  
uh i just came to order  
fried wontons

will that be all  
yeah just fried wontons to go  
yeah  
yup  
out  
handle  
these two  
can i have a box  
sure  
i appreciate it  
smart  
the green first  
the wonton

can i have the chicken pad thai  
chicken noodles  
chicken  
fried rice  
large iced tea  
large mocha latte  
see it right  
thanks  
thank you  
thank you  
thank you so much  
sure  
who is it



*siam rice II. santa clarita, ca.*  
*for isaac aronson*

—

**instructions for reading:**

with low to medium inflection while reading the phrases, where natural.  
somewhat consistent dynamic (audible / normal reading volume).

the poem is split into six sections,  
each with nine stanzas.  
the speed with which you read should increase based on how many lines are in a stanza, and should start from a relatively slow pace at the beginning of each new stanza.

when finished with a page,  
pause for about 4–8 seconds.  
if a page turn is needed, pause for 2–3 seconds, turn the page (audibly), wait for 2–3 more seconds, and then begin reading.

*siam rice II. santa clarita, ca.  
for isaac aronson*

what do you feel like

not sure  
i cannot see

only  
going yeah  
i mean

already  
i mean the fact that ISIS  
collide  
cautious  
you bought the mirror



hi  
customer  
i completely forgot about it  
i know  
at that point  
too much going on  
swirling  
dissolving bowl

are you going to trust me  
save the day  
no it's okay  
i'll be  
all night  
alright  
it's richard  
this year  
that's the girl  
get the eggs  
unsure if we are  
certain something is a fog  
be on your way america

pandora listeners  
absolutely free  
just a small shipping charge  
look at this song  
you can't have it  
gonna get it  
so much food  
is it a fog and not  
for instance  
a lake  
even the best fall down sometimes  
even the wrong words seem to rhyme  
doubt  
mind  
somehow find

you and i will collide  
or a lamp  
what happens now  
two in one  
man  
i've found i'm scared  
always on your mind  
even the best fall down sometimes  
flickering  
nearly subsumed in noise  
are we going back  
how are you  
somehow find  
you and i will collide  
table  
two

yeah  
hi  
hi  
you got this  
want my seat  
hey  
will collide  
you and i  
welcome  
spicy chicken  
hey  
this girl  
i wanna look at  
i wanna go back  
if we took away  
with our fingertips  
only the noise  
can i help you  
hi how are you  
yo

more food

thank you  
thanks

hi  
okay  
we want one

what would be left  
fingertips?  
cautiously  
you get this  
some more sauce

cause look at those kids  
are you gonna finish  
more rice with that  
approaching other fingertips?  
across space  
cordoned off by hundreds of tiny flickering lamps  
i think we're okay  
damn shame

more sauce  
thanks a lot  
can i get you some  
um a pink lemonade  
or a neat row of silent bowls filled  
each  
to the brim  
with an entire lake  
do you have raspberry iced tea  
i'm sorry about that  
regular iced tea  
and a glass of water  
for two

two lemonades  
two waters  
cordon me off quickly and quietly i will dissipate your body in fog  
yes  
two cokes  
okay  
my head  
what it takes to say  
look at that there  
right here on my chest  
papa  
on the line  
chicken

it's gone  
no  
put it there  
can we get these  
bless you  
you were there  
don't let me go  
don't let me go  
don't let me go  
don't let me go  
you were there  
don't let me go  
leaking slowly  
continuously

from every pore  
fog  
don't let me go  
we want a spicy hot soup  
spicy  
medium spicy  
and  
hot  
billowing  
at times  
from miniature ports  
noisy  
yes  
rice  
yes please  
i don't wanna work  
just so you know  
okay that's fine  
don't let me go  
with faded selves



floating among the lakes

don't let me go  
don't let me go

the chicken  
don't let me go  
don't let me go

don't let me go  
okay one  
get it in the bowl  
cautious  
now in the plate

time  
eleven o' clock  
train stop earlier  
sometimes  
chicken  
orange chicken  
so sad  
steamed rice

steamed rice  
not to slip  
from their bowls  
can i have a steak  
so my mom said  
look stop it  
it's fun what do you mean  
don't let me go  
or escape  
the flickering lamps  
don't let me go  
don't let me go  
don't let me go

yeah  
it's good  
don't let me go  
you said it would be like  
thank you  
thank you  
you're welcome  
you're welcome  
many people come  
mister know it all  
i kissed you  
at this table  
with the birds i'll share

at times  
the lamps  
with the birds i'll share this lonely view  
you okay  
push-up bra  
move along  
with the birds i'll share this  
feel  
fog-filled  
with the birds i'll share this lonely view  
it's good  
do you want more  
last night  
sky lit

i'll share  
lonely view  
the honor roll  
broken jaw  
encapsulations  
bowls  
there's nothing wrong with that  
help you realize that  
well no  
i'm not gonna help with that  
it was a piece of the thing  
of apparent noise  
they do know how to play  
peering out constantly  
extending their dim light  
cautiously  
he just went ahead and did it  
saw  
mister know it all  
i mean i asked

with the birds i'll share

this lonely view  
this lonely view

cause they don't know what they have  
toward suggestions of neighboring lamp-lakes  
do you want this

i have another question  
alright  
do you  
wake up with the  
now this

who's gonna take this  
i miss the sound of your voice  
i miss the touch of your skin  
so the other guy  
i miss  
open the band  
doors  
walk on water

i'm afraid it is  
come and get high  
swing of your hips  
who peer back also  
lamp-to-lake  
i heard this song before  
in concert  
we got the thing  
yeah  
that one song  
drown me in love  
lake-to-lamp  
trying to expand into one another



while retaining a trembling lamp-ness  
i miss the sound of your voice  
i miss the  
yeah  
this song  
the things that you say  
walk on water  
the bands started to hate each other  
positioned on the edge of extinguishability  
cautious  
come and get high  
loosen lips  
drown me

come and get high  
see i don't know about this  
so i think we were singing  
by the time we got there  
had already gone  
not to slip too far one direction  
or the other  
or the other or  
into the fog  
it was all  
concert  
always happens  
by the time you open  
the band comes on

everything okay  
more water  
i think i'm okay  
permeating  
and permeated by  
noise  
sauce  
dry  
come and get high  
faith and desire  
a fountain water  
corn  
swing of hips  
drown me drown me  
filling and unfilling all points of the bowl  
cool  
let me see  
try it  
just came out  
got voicemail

free

small shipping charge  
no subscriptions

download  
you got a pack  
record eight tracks

that's twenty  
twelve of the rock  
and i think a couple of  
five days  
you said you're sorry

in which they are housed  
the bowl  
what's that  
well they have a museum in the back  
you can walk around back  
go right in  
wanna do that  
in which there is a lake

wanna go  
no  
hi  
hey careful  
one more  
i don't think she'd give up her  
she only gets a week a year  
three days  
drowning itself in the buzzing noise  
two and three  
just seven days over a year  
two-day minimum  
wants some tea

no  
here is the  
of electrical lamp-hum  
yeah back  
she doesn't miss her  
it's a two-hour drive back  
by the time  
twelve o' clock  
back in LA  
this song was just on the other day  
that i try  
fog-like  
at work

guy was walking down the street playing this song  
this is the greatest thing in the world  
to step  
hobble  
limp  
cautiously  
bittersweet symphony last night  
bongos  
i don't know  
all i've ever known  
you know these  
i can change  
i can change  
i can change

something right  
it's the way  
okay  
viva la vida  
viva la vida  
that's the song  
just come in  
oh yeah  
how was it  
over  
or rather  
cautiously  
beautiful  
cross that  
i can change i can change  
i want  
tied him up  
bittersweet symphony  
are you all set  
bye bye

exactly

on top of  
the fog



yeah  
yes  
i have a washer above the

the real buffy  
the movie  
hot dog  
fries  
you're thinking about kathryn

the bowl  
lake  
noise  
the precise humming frequency  
faint flashing  
vibrant  
fading  
lamp

she was in the movie  
more chicken  
no  
yes  
thank you  
thank you very much  
hi how are you  
she was bummed out  
the movie  
based on the movie  
she played the uh  
bye  
hi

hi  
excuse me  
give me a second  
i'm sorry about that  
what would you like  
some place that's no  
brown rice  
no  
no  
fried rice  
no that's all it was  
there was this girl  
there was this girl

she could have totally been  
oh okay  
dada  
dada  
look at  
but not one of those  
now i know when i get the medium  
yeah  
i mixed it up with someone else  
okay  
that's who i thought it was because  
no thank you  
bunny bunny  
more sauce

spicy  
want that  
want that  
ramen  
excuse me  
can i get more  
are you done  
can i grab the check when you have a second  
i'll keep picking for a second  
thanks  
everybody wants one  
you're the best  
over here  
right right right  
somebody  
i'll go wherever  
what was her name  
can i help you  
oh my god  
always



*saugus café. santa clarita, ca.*  
*for jordan dykstra*

—

**instructions for reading:**

undramatic, slow, consistent dynamic (audible / normal reading volume), nearly monotone, with hints of inflections based on your interpretation of the text.

the poem is split into six sections,  
each with nine stanzas.

the speed with which you read should increase based on how many lines are in a stanza, and should start from a relatively slow pace at the beginning of each new stanza.

when finished with a page,  
pause for about 4–8 seconds.

if a page turn is needed, pause for 2–3 seconds, turn the page (audibly), wait for 2–3 more seconds, and then begin reading.

*saugus café. santa clarita, ca.  
for jordan dykstra*

that's where they see  
one more special

would you like some salsa



you're welcome

thank you  
y'all ready

two eggs  
sausage  
home fries  
links or patties  
this place  
home

in stressings

when i see  
home fries  
toast or english muffin

cheryl  
it is  
bottom of the show  
it went like that  
she was  
two ones

want the paper you can have it

thanks

very green  
okay you see that

of certain syllables  
distance

shell  
could be wrong  
go away  
serve that up  
hey lisa  
just the other day

no i'm good  
how is he  
it's this  
alright  
water  
great how are you

can i get the  
express  
in others  
we spill continuums  
paper bagels

how do you say

notice

he wants to see the sports section  
ya you got it  
you're a gentleman  
just the way he  
no i'll tell him



ya here you go  
i got it

without meaning to  
i am an outsider  
unseen  
those are plates

want to see it  
walking  
more butter

ah you want more

can we get a  
road rage  
bmw

good morning how ya doing  
good thank you how are you  
can i have the house omelet  
no toast

things flit  
only peaks

i'm sorry  
thank you  
no thank you  
you gonna finish that  
forks

it's her birthday  
whole family was here  
ten years  
at least  
probably

bodyguard

we were just discussing that  
own it  
all owners  
verge  
sustain  
camp  
what were you going to say

during that time

show  
it's true  
were there  
part of the show  
wow  
go out  
drop it  
some success  
santa barbara crew  
okay good

forty  
why are you saying that  
one  
says here one hundred and forty

wow  
yeah don't need to ask me twice  
the issue  
here are the eggs  
i know

this piece  
useless  
six weeks  
how bout you  
my attention toward a  
my  
sustained  
you sure  
like you know



the police  
order  
would you like some salsa  
no  
sausage eggs  
would you like some salsa  
no  
any tabasco  
no  
any tapatio  
no

wait for my  
space

i could fit here  
baseball caps  
blue jeans  
suggest  
stress  
ah yes

it went well  
once  
here  
and might as well  
who i am  
blue  
past the lights  
no  
yeah  
i was there  
no  
right there  
one and only  
the whole  
yes  
no way

communion  
below peaks  
okay tomorrow then  
substantial portion  
covering it  
wondering as much as he ran

the dodgers  
thank you very much  
bacon  
minded  
how is everything  
alright  
good thanks  
muted van morrison tugging distant  
how you doing over here  
more coffee  
bailed him  
want any ice  
round here  
how you doing  
good  
weird to see you here in the morning  
yeah

summer evening sunlight softening a dinner table  
constellations

unseen  
yeah  
he's a  
salt charade

uphill run  
more coffee for you  
sure  
alright  
still doin alright  
ya  
what  
huh  
ya  
look at those eyes

take some

i have a facebook but i don't watch it  
duh  
it's what they said  
connections and collections  
of this morning's sunlight's colliding continuums  
they're more special  
that's awesome though  
fuck with my parents  
no  
nice  
great  
i was born in  
nobody ran looking  
grey  
kinda hair  
place  
your buddy told me  
how are you doing  
good  
check please

harder

it's just weird  
tea  
shame that  
ya he just fell down  
fell down  
like that  
ya  
fly  
like that  
skiing  
it's in what  
tennessee i think  
it's so steep that the walk up it  
son  
special omelet  
would you like some salsa  
mediated by perfumed songs

catalyze new continuums  
no i'm good

sure a drag  
getting on the shows  
about anything  
peaceful  
read down the list  
going across the river  
going on  
holding on  
bursting through a  
my  
sustaining  
the difference is  
ya  
you know when juniors on the  
one over there  
spilled  
thank you  
have a great day  
thanks  
we had the sand looking  
wouldn't have known he was bleeding  
if it

home fries



uncertainty into others' yet unseen  
hi mommy  
you notice how he stands  
well  
why is that  
mom the floor's slippery  
mom the floor  
mommy  
mommy

thank you guys have a nice day  
thank you  
mamma  
the floor  
run  
lines of stress  
the summer  
the mouth  
mom  
ya  
you mad at me

grace  
want more

ya  
everything bad  
notoriously  
sorry guys  
tourist  
work hours  
she doesn't bring it up  
that club  
creasing green eyes  
distant  
they don't think about it  
napkins  
thinking to do  
the club  
they don't think about  
no  
no  
hey jesse  
jesse  
jesse  
hello  
leave a tip  
complain  
or ask

go to get something  
ya  
jeez  
echoes beneath peaks  
little hands  
everything you know  
erase the  
a problem  
doing alright over here  
yeah yeah good  
ya everything  
everything  
the whole city  
oh now start playing  
balance  
go down to what we call  
you free  
call your mom  
got it all over  
one  
four  
some people  
i say we have  
fridays  
take that

star  
tip  
pair of  
over fifty times stronger  
fifty times  
i thought what  
that's it  
and i told him that  
restricted

still

those peaks  
when a rental  
i bet  
really  
have you heard  
move it over  
squeeze it out  
isn't it  
are we ready  
i'll have the  
on mine can i have the  
thanks  
all the ways  
hi  
hi  
can i help you  
i cannot slip fully  
continually  
and you guys want something too  
guess so  
hey  
a man  
wait i told him  
not great  
that spot  
right  
walking  
years  
a little more crunch  
yes  
see that's what i mean  
yeah  
say pot  
too distant  
set it  
it's a saying  
pardon me

get this  
big strong guys  
ten thousand dollars  
one thousand per week  
only new  
out front  
twenty-five million plus eight point five percent  
films  
to sustain  
one hundred million dollars  
six million dollars  
wrong way  
twenty thousand dollars  
here  
you could make up to thirty-four million dollars with one movie

all good  
more coffee  
you said you  
mega-million  
stressings  
got the  
look at this  
old  
one two  
an entrance  
he probably went back this year  
ready  
change  
alright you too  
great day  
coffee  
no  
that's what the thing  
oh  
stay  
honey  
honey honey  
four million  
i like that  
too easy to unsee

gimme some money  
no i was just wondering  
give me money

more like  
fuck  
the contracts are up  
and like what i want  
and i got paper  
in terms of four times the  
our minds can slide and sound in unseen  
and in a bad way  
can i have a word  
thank you my friend  
how you guys doing  
good  
that one is  
looks like it is  
players from both sides  
across the  
according to  
easy does it  
ways  
together  
peeking



i been workin every day  
thank you have a great day guys  
you too  
half a cup  
avocado  
you too  
well i think that if  
no direction  
you need anything else  
what i want is cheese

underneath clouds growing above scattered stressings  
don't criticize it  
no it doesn't  
like  
i'm not really about that  
yeah  
and here it is  
you're so  
nah  
not that  
you gonna get hurt  
that's a good way to  
well she had a  
different steps  
stretching until  
continuums  
golden  
in fact i know that  
there she is  
this might be hard  
you want the cheese  
ah for now  
i want it  
don't worry  
heaven sent  
you want to have it

so good  
still really good  
don't just expand  
they sustain  
your moving  
home  
how it makes me feel  
you know where  
that is so amazing  
i don't  
i only  
forty please  
there's the thing  
the thing  
i know too  
blind or restored  
she's a nice lady  
distant and close  
close and distant  
no man  
bread  
scrambled  
no  
i don't want those things

so obsessed with that  
why you so upset  
he's gotta be  
all-time  
he tells me  
helps me out  
drinks

okay it's okay  
you might wanna text me

hey little man  
on this one i wrote forty  
it was twenty-three and i wrote twenty  
ok i'm sorry  
no you're good  
ok thank you  
would you like the check now sir  
yeah  
mind colors now surely distanced  
listen to this  
purple

alright thank you  
have a nice day  
more coffee  
i'm okay  
bye  
bye nice to see you  
thank you very much  
thank you have a great day  
thank you  
from our blue jeans and caps  
yet  
not  
somehow  
immanent to those  
to un-see  
hey how are you  
the media  
six eight nine  
morning you can sit anywhere you want  
morning  
it was darn near time  
be here  
parents  
down my neck  
like i'm looking for  
ew

it's not as in tune with  
-hear or -feel

our voices  
impossible  
our sustaining  
oh my god  
these bugs  
your place  
i already got it  
hey  
sounds smart  
good how are you  
hi  
ah they're already helping  
i'm just waiting for  
hello  
hi  
selves  
tattered flags fluttering on sparse peaks  
and you're ok with water  
ok  
just to see it  
no  
so lately i've been  
gonna get it  
i'll be right there  
see  
you may not hear or know it



want a pancake  
want that  
okay  
implicate a tangible distance  
continually  
there's three of them  
green  
thank you  
how bout for you sir  
do you wanna eat  
can we get your menus  
thank you  
sure  
thank you  
that thing  
ah i'm pretty sure it's like this  
within each other's pull and stress  
don't be  
don't be  
here wait you stay there  
work it  
behind you  
better  
get a car  
yeah let's do it

pick up the stash  
he can't the day before  
also  
so there's a problem  
so then they know  
brand spankin  
it's inexpensive  
get the cars  
oxygen  
are you gonna go for that  
what can i get you today  
good i think  
in a minute  
he just got off  
ah home fries  
something to drink

i guess it wasn't just spiritual  
yet apart  
flatten distant peaks  
that guy  
they're making money  
i saw a certain way  
that game  
roll out  
lexus  
theater  
we were watching  
dj  
she never told me about the videos  
this guy won all the awards  
into a  
multiple  
sustaining  
continual  
what they talkin about  
looking at a lot of value guys  
i don't know

so one sauce  
chicken fried steak  
that'd be awesome  
chicken fried steak  
it's the chicken

line through unseen  
gentle  
stressings  
is it fixed  
yeah it's money to me  
hours out  
when i say money i mean money

bought a house  
guys doing okay so far  
just fucking there  
no it has nothing to do with that  
just to say  
glasses  
he's gonna go out and bring my money  
it's gonna happen  
then he's gonna get  
be open  
just like his wife did  
his previous wife did the same thing  
can i have a water  
oo yeah what day is it today  
and his wife did the same  
the condo  
their money  
they lied about the condo  
turned in a financial application  
did the same thing  
get the money  
hey what's up

he's going to prove that  
so we learn about those  
man  
right  
has the same one  
that one  
yeah

are you all finished  
more water or coffee

have a great day  
you too

thank you  
i don't wanna make

that was not it

