

An Introvert in the Public School System

He said, "How do
you write so many poems?"
I replied, "I
have suffered."
He answered, "I have
suffered also. I was
in a Nazi Concentration Camp."
I replied, "That is
not enough. I was
an introvert
in the public school system."

My Bird Imitations

While standing on the sidewalks
of a middle-class neighborhood,
I imitated the hoarse song
of a crested flycatcher.
I was arrested,
but was released
when the police learned
it was against the law
to cage a native American bird.

The Lost George

George, where do you live
since they, yes they, THEY
built highway 4?

George
you once lived by a park
with mallards and white ducks;
but now George,
where do you live?
There is only highway 4 now.
Where are you, George?

An Afternoon in Troy

Sat around the radio, talked about fire,
earth, water, and air. Awaited the news
about the wooden horse. We knew what
was inside, but were afraid to tell.
Had seen our cousins beat up Cassandra
in the city square. Passed the time
playing pin-ball machines. Our cousins
were running up and down, yelling
about a great gift and peace. They planned
a cocktail party for the coming weekend.
A rumor was circulated that Aeneas
was catching a bus out of town.

-- Duane Locke