

Passus 27: COMBINE (for Costa)

(1)

Disaster is never far away
& when we leap we fall
& who are they? . .

when we love we love
what is dismay?
& if we leap we fall
. . . & who . . . are . . . they? . .

if now we hedge the bet
toward yesterday
if now we fan the lung
& dig decay
& do not leap & they are set,
 lack, lack, lack
not only lack
 a day
(& if we leap we fall & who are they? . . .)

o if we do not leap
o o
 ("FOLD CORNERWISE & STUFF THAT JAZZ")

. . .
"& I sd for chrissake" watch
the snow
as each as they flakes out

(2)

He sd
"They hate my guts
because I don't have childbearing hips,
although I love their children."

I note it down
"without recourse" is how
I checked,
 remembering unpaid debts
upon my father's death
to the widow
whom I loved
(she was my mother) more than me . . .
& how she had not force to bring
to bear
ferocity.

— Ronald H. Bayes

La Grande, Oregon