Feckless Replies

William Vollrath

College of DuPage

Follow this and additional works at: http://dc.cod.edu/plr

Recommended Citation

Available at: http://dc.cod.edu/plr/vol28/iss1/4
Feckless Replies

William Vollrath

We weren’t always this way—
We too want and need a soft touch and
reassuring smile, like you
the crisp, fresh air through the open morning window
after a night of blissful intimacy,
the deeply sought, dependable, faithful moments,
nights of ardent desire fulfilled,
of symphonic, orgasmic release

But such nights became increasingly rare—
They became the exception,
while the days of disquiet multiplied,
filled with hurtful pokes and jabs
from your sharp sticks fueled by too many insecurities
brought forth from childhood into our fragile relationship

Resigned surrender became fecklessness in your eyes—
Your sufficient man seemingly idealized
as superman, not realman
Not the flawed humanity, the reality as we are created,
needing support and encouragement,
needing second, even third chances
Not we discouraged, frustrated creatures
desperately seeking some nobility
amongst the oxygen-sucking, energy-consuming
E-mails, deadlines, road rages, constant crises, daily deaths
of a toilsome today

Honest angst of being less than perfect,
prematurely and unfairly labeled fecklessness—
Interpreted as a lacking in love,
real love you chose not to see and nurture,
being blind to treasure just beneath a scarred surface
left to mutate into a debilitating sad loneliness
unnecessary and unwanted fecklessness in your eyes,
or perhaps just cruelty’s bastard child
for us each, and too many others…