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Blasphemous Rex

Richard Oberbruner
College of DuPage

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BLASPHEMOUS REX

John Updike shoots up.
Ezra Pound snorted by the pound.
Joyce Carol Oates eats like a horse.
Ernest Hemingway's diet lacked lead.
William Shakespeare dipped his quill in harlot ink.
Edgar Allan Poe sober was George Will.
The Bronte sisters tag team mud wrestled.
Henry David Thoreau molested beavers.
T.S. Eliot spelled backwards, without the S, is *toilet*.
Stephen King inhales pure Maine oxygen.
William Carlos Williams snuck painkillers:

Everything depends
on the little
red pills
shining
on the table
near my
cracked
reading glasses

Mark Twain skinny-dipped in raw sewage.
F. Scott Fitzgerald sucked down gasoline martinis.
e.e. cummings fried 'shrooms.
Allen Ginsberg's death was God exchanging for a cleaner needle.
Gertrude Stein was Gertrude Stein was Gertrude Stein was Gertrude Stein.
Studs Terkel still sucks socialist thumb. (Say 3 times fast!)
Sylvia Plath knew one decent oven recipe.
Notre Dame grads wrote the Four Gospels.

— *Richard Oberbruner*