So You Will Know

Our lives become cluttered with deadlines and dates,
While newspaper headlines tell of violence and hates.

We rush through each moment, a victim of time,
Unaware of our folly, unaware of our crime.

We rush through our greetings — "Hi Bob" "How ya doin' Sue?"
And before they can answer, we're gone from their view.

We lose sight of the things that affect us the most,
We barely touch, yet of many friends we will boast.

If you are not careful, you may miss all that is dear,
A smile or a wave is not enough to make your meaning clear.

The regret I felt when I heard that voice from my past,
Has embedded a sadness I know will always last.

The crime was unforgiveable, the punishment dear,
The words spoken were not those I expected to hear.

Take heed of this message, don't wait for "I never knew";
By sharing these simple words, "I care about you".

Mary R. Baker

Lemming Fuse

Lemming fuse
burn short
the hot
spot ralston
on the brittle rock

Why does the herd
jackknife pell and mell
gleeful bounce
seaward, pelly melly belly flop, belly flop
flop on to the top
of the sharp and lethal waves?

Crop of the best and the bright
stuck in the rut of genetic
clap trup and knows the whole marathon
where the end lies.
Phobic of heights and rocks
is no remedy
cause if ya gotta let go
then ya gotta so
go run little sisters
run to the edge too fast to fold back
run to the top too far to lean back
little time bombs tick tock tack
don't look back all in a pretty row
the little time bombs try to outtrace
their little fierce clocks
shortlegs puff-huff to the end of their flat world
seeking the blue midnight of Mother's ice bath
break the sprung time timing spring
snap fuse
of the only world they knew.

Lee Kesselman