

Self-analysis

Have you ever watched the sunset,
When the sky is thick with clouds?
Have you sometimes styled your hair with blown-up balloons?
Did you fly a million miles,
Through a storm of purple goldfish,
When you counted all the Solar System's moons?

When there's silence all around you,
And there's no-one standing by you,
Do you stand, or do you slip back down the drain?
If no-one wants to know you,
And the world disdains and mocks you,
Do you press on, though it drives you half insane?

Have you ever tried to guess
How many grass blades grow in heaven?
Have you asked what makes the singing vultures tame?
Do you ever stop to wonder
What it is that makes you argue,
And if we swapped eyes, then would we see the same?

If you tried to share an insight,
Something precious – but they scorn you,
Well, would you just laugh and try another day?
When the mad men want to tell you things,
(They seem too strange for words),
Do you hear them out and ponder what they say?

When the sun sets in the East
And all the birds fly North in Winter,
Do you collect the droppings falling from the sky?
When you stuff your heart with sealant
And embed your head in sandstone,
Do you ever stop to ask the reason why?

W. M. R. Simpson