

Distraction the essence
 of all things good.
 I tie my arms upon you
 like a bow,
 musing over inadequacies,
 fitting parallels and the tips of ruling pens
 into some shocked perspective.
 It is past at my wingtips.
 The room so angular,
 so pointed and particular, I spy
 myself in pairs
 of pupils - such a face.
 Before they invented compasses,
 how were the circles born?
 On sea foam like fair Aphrodite,
 or through the grasping
 of determined fingers,
 curling in as leaves?

No matter

You hug me,
 all words gone, and there is nothing left
 for letterforms to say.
 the jointed slurs
 of speech bubble around us,
 unknown to ink, beautiful without line,
 or rule or pen
 perfect in their clarity.

Typography, My Way

Distraction the essence of all things good.
I tie my arms upon you like a bow,
musing over inadequacies,
fitting parallels and the tips of ruling pens
into some shocked perspective.

It is vast at my wingtips.

The room so angular, so pointed and particular,
I spy myself in pairs of pupils – such a face.

Before they invented compasses,
how were the circles born?
On sea foam like fair Aphrodite,
or through the grasping of determined fingers,
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No matter

You hug me, all words gone,
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the jointed slurs of speech bubble around us,
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perfect in their clarity

Anonymous

Colophon

The poem *Typography, My Way* was written in 1991 by a student of typography at Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA. Transcribed by the teacher Pino Trogu and rediscovered in 2005 in San Francisco. It was first published by Jack W. Stauffacher of The Greenwood Press, as part of a limited edition boxed set of poetry entitled *Verse into TYPE*, the APHA Poetry Portfolio. American Printing History Association, 2006.

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Additional text: Poets are sometimes analyzed by their handwriting to reveal their personality. Knowing poets' personalities, we see how their traits can influence their poetry. I reveal this by the strokes of an ink calligraphy pen. Connecting the poem as a whole, the ink strokes reveal its own visual interpretation of the poem and a sense of the poet's state of mind when the poem was written.

Typefaces: Flemish Script Regular, Minion Pro Regular, Minion Pro Semibold Italic, Frutiger Regular, Frutiger Bold

Illustrations: Wilfred Castillo

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