

The Holy Sonnets unDonne
Mark Young





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Introduction

I did Donne in High School. Redone at University. Thought after that that I'd be done with Donne. But no. Discovered that Donne is one of those precursor poets who, like W. C. Williams & Yeats & Apollinaire, I keep coming back to. *The Holy Sonnets unDonne* is a belated homage, a small sequence that uses the poems by Donne as a starting point to track how things change across four centuries yet still remain as metaphysical as ever.

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Thou hast made me, and shall thy work decay?

Mildly dyslexic &
made from neoprene,
she was a lawyer
who courted infamy
by using saturation
advertising to accuse a
certain mining magnate
of causing the plane
crash that killed three
members of Lynyrd
Skynyrd. It was raining.
She wasn't wearing
her seat belt. Sweet
Home Alabama indeed.

As due by many titles I resign

Chinese hackers were reportedly behind the counterfeit weather forecast. It came as a two-pack, in the same way that bad hygiene makes you look like a slob. This trope could also apply to animals. Police seized the vegetable stall & any resident reluctant to allow someone to drill a hole in their slab. Funds for the TV commercial came from federal sources.

O might those sighs and tears return again

He asks: *Why is milk white?*
To mirror the Brazilian
culture now that they don't
have band practice like they
used to, she replies. Imagine
vibrations on a string of
fixed length— L is the string
length, & n is an integer. The
motion of objects is governed
by Newton's laws. *Il est bon*
de pouvoir s'amuser avec ses
amis. It's a common trope
on the troubles of building
your own logic controls.

Oh my black soul! now art thou summoned

Everyone should get their act together, create a list of large numbers & a broad agenda for social change. The process can be streamlined, made less error prone by squeezing the lever with the left hand & relying on physical principles & simple physics. Her basement was one of a range of venues currently set up for human clinical trials. Her countenance exhibited great distress.

I am a little world made cunningly

We have ambushed the mainstream & are now showing the extent of dissimilarity between any item being considered & those already selected. It's a dictionary of atmosphere & ambience, this maximum marginal relevance, recently hauled over the coals by the Vatican for trying to help homebuyers circumvent its tough new lending criteria. It is also offering small bench-top composting bins for sale.

This is my play's last scene; here heavens appoint

This place is a rip off,
a real live example
of campaign momentum
in action. A year ago
it might have been a
ukelele, encouraging wo-
men to talk to their doctors
about the ineffectiveness
of retention programs or
maybe something about Jam-
iroquai. Now the promise has
no value, imagined or other-
wise. The candidate bundled
up, the gift stopped giving.

At the round earth's imagined corners, blow

She went to Helsinki, a
concert of her music,
took a walk from Market
Square to Café Ursula
by the sea. Scientists
have identified a neural
circuit that connects
motor planning to move-
ment. Move left, move
right. The sea water
spurts like a geyser &
saltwater sprays the
area. It may be advisable
to pack extra insulin.

If faithful souls be alike glorified

Pretty blonde teenagers will sometimes make sandals from cut-up truck tires using a jig saw with a metal-cutting blade, Shoe Goo, & a dozen or so clamps. The Olmecs, caught up in global issues, sought out poisonous plants. They were also great traders. Spengler said of them: *We are witnessing the last season—winter time—of the Faustian Civilization. You may also use the Bill Me option & pay just \$17.00.*

If poisonous minerals, and if that tree

The nation's refineries close
down & the mining boom
ends. The village dogs have
been penned up. Poor diet
& animals with mineral
deficiencies are bringing the
Western world to its knees.
Many extraordinary offerings
have been made that hope to
eliminate chance but chance
rises up anyway. A young
man sits flanked by a pair
of Kalashnikovs, grinning.
She tried to surf a train.

Death be not proud, though some have called thee

I am having Skype lessons once a week & can be contagious for up to two weeks afterwards. Inanimate objects will often show symptoms when they're in a syntactic category at their own expense. The girl that is teaching me infinite patience might be Swedish but doesn't have time to utter any extraneous words. Instead she dances in a language I can understand. Some doctrines are voiced in poetry.

Spit in my face you Jews, & pierce my side

She told them they were no longer slaves, renowned throughout the world for their succulent flavor. The setting was originally a run-down hotel that used the British convention for floor numbering. Where this might cause misreading, add an apostrophe & s or italicize the numerals. I want to get my tragus pierced, & add a small dream catcher in the Native American Style.

Why are we by all creatures waited on?

A phallus-like shape designed especially for stimulating the G-spot reduces stress on the motor, creating what you desire, the finding & discovery of the lost gnostic gospels. She's wearing a big black backpack. Her reckless desire for experimentation overrides any hint of common sense—she doesn't care if the public realizes the correlation between drilling for oil in America's premier wildlife sanctuary & computer security.

What if this present were the world's last night?

Korolev scored 9.85s on the floor & pommel horse exercises. The dragon's burnt tooth is also known as a cross-functional liaison. Pick the color of the leather, the color of the beads—each color represents a distinct area of functional expertise— & they'll put it together by hand. Integrate the work of other people. Avoid paraphrasing the text. Up to 5% of the female population has alterations in thyroid function. Informal language is denigrated. The prices were in Singaporean dollars.

Batter my heart, three-person'd God...

We were preparing to leave the restaurant, already familiar with those revelatory findings that directly impact on the concept of how the movements of the round heaven would be hindered by a square Earth. "Manifesting" is such a buzzword these days, used interchangeably with "magic" to produce a result so ardently desired. But magic is ashes, potsherds, & bricks, three things the earth does not corrode, even after high rotational torque & modern waste separation technology.

Wilt thou love God, as he thee? Then digest

I have downloaded InstaGlam for Instagram & enjoy it on my iPhone. I'm constantly strapped into the seatbelt of my car so am always careful to have a weapon available to each hand, knowing how awkward it is to get to a pocket-carried gun. I prepare so I don't have to go hungry if my usual stores run out of food, but if by chance I do I live above the Trader Joe's on 14th Street NW. Food miles are a good measure of how far food has traveled.

Father, part of his double interest

One end of the continuum is an uncaptioned & unnumbered image of a short, attractive, self-assured young woman who later served as the first Prime Minister of Australia. The other, a cumulative picture of anxiety hysterias & neuroses which rusts when exposed to air. We were younger than we thought. Time dilates. You are watching someone who is accelerating. Whale-watching could be accelerating the extinction of whales. Their songs can be heard over great distances.

Since she whom I loved hath paid her last debt

The low status of gentrification has a solid existential base. Productivity may have surged but sweetheart deals are brutalizing the public. If we skip the example of *Frozen*, the most striking illustration of severe economic inequality is how little political scientists have done.

Show me, dear Christ, Thy spouse so bright and clear

A house is floating down the river.
They were swept apart. She was
lost. Swimming in a river in a dream
means either ending up in a dismal
slot at some seedy Soho club or
working for the public service. Leave
any preconceptions at the door
or doom each other by holding onto
them. Yelp is a fun & easy way to
talk about what's great & not so
great in Des Moines. Because I'm
Japanese, I never had that kind
of conversation near me. I can
clearly see a difference in my skin.

Oh, to vex me, contraries meet in one

Greece is in a straightjacket. *An error occurred: unable to execute Javascript.* I love cookbooks from around the world. *The Adobe Flash plugin is needed to view this content.* Nothing is served by being silent. *The cinetrix insists I share this with codland.* Inverting the process is like learning a vocabulary. *Our editors are very busy working on the process.* Using solid fuels like wood, charcoal, & dung made Scandinavian cooking the most fashionable in the world. *Their guiding principle can be summed up in four words: cooking dinner shouldn't kill.*

Mark Young

Mark Young is the editor of *Otoliths*, lives in a small town in North Queensland in Australia, & has been publishing poetry for more than fifty-five years. He is the author of over thirty books, primarily text poetry but also including speculative fiction, vispo, & art history. His work has been widely anthologized, & his essays & poetry translated into a number of languages. His most recent books are *Bandicoot habitat* & *lithic typology*, both from gradient books of Finland. An e-book, *For the Witches of Romania*, is due out from Beard of Bees.



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