

Fall 1-24-2018

# Lighter Than I Remember

Shane Hayden  
*Portland State University*

Follow this and additional works at: [https://pdxscholar.library.pdx.edu/open\\_access\\_etds](https://pdxscholar.library.pdx.edu/open_access_etds)



Part of the Poetry Commons

Let us know how access to this document benefits you.

---

## Recommended Citation

Hayden, Shane, "Lighter Than I Remember" (2018). *Dissertations and Theses*. Paper 4167.  
<https://doi.org/10.15760/etd.6054>

This Thesis is brought to you for free and open access. It has been accepted for inclusion in Dissertations and Theses by an authorized administrator of PDXScholar. Please contact us if we can make this document more accessible: [pdxscholar@pdx.edu](mailto:pdxscholar@pdx.edu).

Lighter Than I Remember

by

Shane Hayden

A thesis submitted in partial fulfillment of the  
requirements for the degree of

Master of Fine Arts  
in  
Creative Writing

Thesis Committee  
Michele Glazer, Chair  
John Beer  
Zachary Schomburg

Portland State University  
2017

## Abstract

It is pointless to track one's progress along the energies of the cosmic sea, when independent of the immensely malleable sonic waves, and erase the cessation of elevation. The release never reaches the essence and the static repels them when they are devoid of the white dwarfs or their spiral arms: there is nothing tangible in not exploiting the mind/body connection. At last the summit is exalted. Minuscule solar rays expand into darkness, unhinged and must be nurtured, thought by thought, until magnified in nerve impulse and then put to rest by the still water, thus more quickly compiled, constricted into pools of electrical circuits connecting this to that, white and black and back and forth. But how seldom are we blinded to the expanding, encroaching, slashed and shredded consciousness, thinly veiled by Martian reproductions, shielding how expansive they are retreating from one another, unbraided and how often they are anchored about! Moreover, if we depart for the uncounted millennia any thought of transparent application, in its inertness, we lose sight that it is not only here and there, but also along an infinite length, a dimensionless promontory, that the seamless past/future only multiplied. The absence of the bottom/top and its technology disguised that everywhere timeless presence has remained static since the stars muddied the cosmos

---

## Table of Contents

Abstract	i
Cover page	iii
Preface	iv

Lighter than I Remember	1-92
-------------------------	------



Lighter than I Remember

Park at the pass If you pass Pine Mountain Then you've gone too far Most  
people will go too far There are tracks in frozen snow Likely a coyote's so  
don't worry A cougar's won't have claws That's how you can tell still Stay  
back from the ledge The firing range opens at dusk Have you seen the post  
office At Millican or diesel gas or. Windows in the window frames? There is  
man with his guitar There is woman in every song Leaning on a guardrail

22 miles to Bend  
100 plus to Burns  
I hear Steens is something

shane van hayden

I wake several times to moonlight / Feeding the owl

Now that I'm under this poncho / The calendar came without an October



I guess that I have my access issues / Those are real waves

Breaking us / I pet your cat



It pets me back /

We are so bad we dwell Olympian / Shivering I construct a fire

Champion the dangling muffler / Re-fold and unfold the map

Dig the small town liquor store vibe / The medieval sword

We get conversational tattoos / Yours is 52



Mine, 79 /



I do a go go dance / To make you miss me more

Titled Still Life with Email / Or, the beat of the ceiling fan

Crooked neck tie / Traversing sand dunes



When I'm anxious I touch my lips /

Log now I am lost / In a horse's mane

The destroyer of hay / A snake in my own engine

Earth / Its humans

Can you not hear me / Saddled yellowing





♪ Keep doing that ♪ /

Who loves the sun? / The world does not

End or end with / The falling acrobat

Or even spirit the panoramic / Gushing



Any more than: I do /

Please stop calling me hangry / I've fallen into this shape

Fillet of trout / Young buck of the mountain

Tiger tooth comb / Through your hair



More Montana / Then Dakota

The mouth / Eating the mutton chop



Its dust keeps us coming back /

A cook greases another pan / Somebody empties creamer



Into the river /

You are larger than I remember / Weirded out

When I won't wear the jazz hat anymore / Hoarder of orange peels

A bird in what appears to be hair / I wouldn't drive here right now



Limping like a javelina / Into the guillotine night



I wouldn't call it a nest either /

Everybody comes from some other body / Fog among the wood chips

Custom made for you and me / Harmonizing rest stop

With free wifi / Propane from the lantern

Solar lit / Origin: free pile



Yes I am lying up and down /

We dye our wool this violet cort / I want to paint your Matterhorn



Feeling fracked / I bid on the pontoon

No your dog can't come in here / I'll be your Rocky tonight

All doom is local / My super-power is running

It's called hydraulics / We are still



Idling in the driveway /

Banished to the foothills / Meemaw loved her Lawrence Welk

Enchanted mesa / Tantric bone

Corn dog future / Mom hog



El noche the night / Wind-star



Over Cornelius Pass Rd /

I am not your man project / Piloting the iodine train

The 16 dollar hamburger / When I wave



It spells cryosphere /

Jet holes / Now that I have drawn you



Into my nanometer /

We call out blue Missoula / The flood





The lawn the kids the trampoline /

It's a lot like buffalo / Being run off a cliff

Rainbow licking / The thunder cloud

We are in a room a wagon / Eating jerky camel bag

Full of blackberry wine / I swear



You are smiling /

Once I worked at Radio Shack / What more do you need

Half dry towel / Hanging in the doorway



Hell yes / My shirt reflects

My mood! / Like a sectional couch



On a rocking chair /

10-4 good buddy and all that shit / A little nugget for the 6 disc changer

What key is this harmonica not in? / In a strip club

Partying so hard with Duff McKagen / So stoned I can't stop looking

Into this dollar bill my hand / I find the part about the prostitute

Pissing off the 35th floor / That one time I made it to the beach





Drunk at dawn in the shadow of Diamond Head /

One nail / Driven into the head of another

My safe place / To sift through the mashed potatoes



Please don't ever park here /

You had me at filthy lawn chair / The metal slots

The bag of ice / Crushing itself

Streaming estate sales / Viral sea-foam

I eat it anyway / Aimless mouth full of rust



The why in the wind / Through the church bell



We can use that outlet /

Seven Feathers later / In a Yellowstone snapback

Weighed / By the pine needle

Welding / A match light

All eyes on the steakhouse / The dressing for the fireman's ball

Levitating / Levels of bed

Great our own set of siamese twins / Joined by a common computer monitor



Nothing obvious about that / And save the Grand Canyon



Again /