

Glimpse

John O'Reilly

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Dedicated to,
with love/regards for:

Kathy and John
my warmest regards, love
and thanks.

Vanessa,
Erin and Chris
for your inspirations

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OPPORTUNITY

sometimes
life throws up an opportunity,

we might
fumble,

or it may
fall,

yet
sometimes we don't...
it
doesn't...

and there
is a moment
of closure
of achievement
of glory
of esteem

/

life throws up an opportunity
(*most likely*)
more often
than we
realise...

INERTIVITY

young energy
moves creativity
from its state
of rest

all,
new and
exciting

yet...

aged complacency / routine / contentment

leaves creativity
in its state of
uniform motion
w / no great challenge

with little
that is,
new nor
exciting

DESIGNER

complexity head on

faced
analysed
designed
developed
systematised

so

it

/

this thing

for you

is easy to use

RETURNING

i have missed
you
the way you
 your
stereo
sounds
like you're
there with
drums on
the left
guitar
on the
right
waves almost
to the
vocalist
coming through
the
middle,

i have...,

but now

i have

you

back

you're

on

/

in my

head

GREEN

with the recent rains,
the acres have
bright green
almost happy,
foreground green,
leaves, a
darker shading
on green

the cows
meander,
wondering
where to start

/

quietly
content

COOLING

squawking, laughing, screeching,
quacking, whistling, singing,
birds being... present

rustling, chiming, thunder rolling,
rain falling, water draining,
heat washing... away

listening, watching, cooling,
relaxing, meditating,
like the birds... being present

ANGER

and then at times
i have to remind myself
that the anger i feel
at what you've said...

is a message
for me
from me

why am i angry?
something unfair?
something reflected?

taking focus off venting
i sit
and reflect
and then learn something new...

/ thank you!

or remind myself
that i have not yet...

SOUL

and then she
said something like

‘I think gumption
is part of soul...’

and with a
mind full of
past deliberation,
prior assimilation,

this nestled
right in...

gumption,
maybe chi,
life energy
(not chemical

may be a measure of
may be a facet of
may be
maybe

soul

(...a nice thought ...)

LIVING-ART

bush walk
a spring
brook
in winter

calm, peaceful
cascades of green

great height's falling water
the sheer sculptures
carved in
cliff-face
moments
 / it's
 of nature's art

not immortal
but manicured

promising new
vision, new
perspectives, new
enlightenment

some thousand
years hence

IMMORTALITY

while i pine for immortality
you

with morning rays
reflecting, dancing
off your most enormous
body of
water
moves
us, we flock to
it,
we accept

you're becoming
you're poetry

/ in
motion
to me

your rays

dancing across our pages

your physics

reflecting

in me

while i ponder immortality...

RAP

if i could graffiti a thousand walls
if i could rap a thousand lines
 sprout a thousand thoughts
 write a thousand wiki's
 entertain a stadium full of fans

what would stick?
what little piece of
 value would
 limber on
 rhythm with
 rhyme

if i could rap
what more
could
i add...

would bring someone
to sing
skip along
to

/

too
much din

if only i could...

OFFER

say what you
think what you
feel what you
hum what you
hear what you
play what you
can

with something to
say something to
sing something to
feel something too

/

to offer

GIVING

back

then and now
my thanks
go out to
the universe,
and to
my ancestors,

my life's
opportunities
are there
because
of
and so

so very often
in an effort to /
too

i consider what i might...

GENERATION

generations
generation
generate

a realisation that

for us

	the
achievements	the
contributions	the
love	the

generations did

generate

generations of...

BEING

talking to
listening to
walking through
seeing you
thinking true

judging me
reflecting me
setting free
letting be
instinctively.

just being,

being me

SO

while here it's been
so calm
so green
so tranquil

for you...

in the face of
so much water
so much movement
so much devastation
in
so little time.

today
is filled with shock
and anguish.

DEPRIVE

with aspirations determined drive
goals held true performing live
structure built to stand and strive
this god this earth with will deprive.

GREW

sheer presence
defies the view
denies the new
holds true
the form of you
time grew

early start
big finish

branching

o u t . . .

GREY

grey
menacing
violence incoming

calm
lapping
serene sparkling

gull
dreaming
anticipation pending

people
strolling
morning deliberation

foreshore
inviting
manicure delivering

grey
menacing
view balancing

NAGGING

nagging me
i call
out of sight
you elude

show yourself
i demand
on deaf deliberation
no movement

subtle gnawing
i feel
no thanks just
demand on...

nagging me
i deliver
what i think
is right

is it?

what's
left?

WORK

busy periods of work and focus
interrupt the thinking
on the ultimate question –

‘What’s the point?’

DECK

sitting on the deck
looking out
for, not finding...
seeing green
instead of
winter grey, it
springs out at you
with layers cascading
gum green grass
green leaves
peace settling
on the dusk
birds making their
way in the
world hastening
gives way to
tranquil and
 a sense of
 calm at the
 end of...

just
sitting on the deck

CVT

what will i...

not
sleeping

not
actualising

they,
yet

and yet,
they,

drive,
they
drive

i just ride
passenger
my kids to /
too
government,
they

cut,

my kids
ride

me

not sleeping,

just
cut

ROLLERCOASTER

business roller,
coaster along
came that job
job and then this
not enough
filling
filling the trough
half,
 is it
or is it?...
half roller
half coaster
half a moment
for feeling,
feeling roller, half
coaster sick

SPECTATING

filling the spaces via plastic
conversing without considered musings
with little creative engaging
born of this action
video the space lost
between me spectating and
me not actualising.

RECORDING

taken for granted
capturing images
recording motion
real or fabricated

digital recording
proofed
endless backup
portable

available accessible
editable professional

history has
never seen as such...
songs recorded down

EMPTY

/ nest

one by one
one each
leaves the nest

energised life
is cut away
cuts a hole

bit by bit
bits left are
just stuff

not meaning
not meaningful
not interaction
not energised

just
stuff

FLAT-FOOTED

he noted how in impending disaster
many can remain flat-footed and
with further deliberation we noted
ignorance inexperience misunderstanding
distraction priority-obligation confusion and
wondered how we might anticipate our own
reactions...

GUMPTIONISE

gumption can be drawn in or expended
at all levels of Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs

- mirrored by current physio-emotional status
- can in turn gumptionise or not or drain
those around us
- am i / are they / right now
more energiser or consumer?

DEPENDENCE

so now
so cool
so rad
(so sorry!)

technology

survival instinct
calls us
to jump on board

float along
paddle
 / even
depend on
 with blind abandon

spare a moment
in the event
that...

so new
so wet

BUSHWALKING

(afternoons)

taking time for me i guess
for burning off,

unwanted excess
the day's accumulated stress
some adrenalin-fuelled distress

chasing down the illusive 'quiet'
taking up the toil and sweat
a tourist here, and yet
connecting, hearing, seeing,
it's peace you give, i get

life's events, requests and connection
like daily mail, take to pouring in
noted, but mostly left without, wait within
a turn, a time, once you're freed from
noise and din

so walking gives me this, this space
for some it's chance, some it's chase
for me the walking distracts with pace
while my mind recounts, recalls, reviews
each file, finds its place.

but once a walk goes beyond its store
the mind goes quiet, there's peace,
and an open door
to take in trees, bush sounds, and the
forest floor
and this is it, it's what, i guess,
i really come looking for...

EMBRACE

pain

in pain

in grief

with shame

with guilt

loneliness

frustration

depression

suffer - in -

depression

with, in

pain

in

within

without

/

gumption

this
this embrace

i feel,
you feel,
tears they
they
come out
with the pain
 the pain
 in, from
within,

comes pouring

out

CLOUDS

some clouds are wispy
unobtrusive, illusive,
light on, sometimes
hard to connect

some clouds are fluffy
illuminating, welcoming
reassuring, delivering,
very present, very
keen to connect

some clouds are menacing
threatening, damaging,
wilful, imperative
to disconnect

and yet,
in the hands of god,
we sometimes blindly...

INJUSTICES

with focus on,
on facing off
the injustices

seeking personal
solace and the terms
terms of potential actions

to challenge
a sincere intent
a realistic plan

with so many
in need,
can action not,
not find its balance,
can balance not,
not find,
its own path?

CAVE

/ day

then there are days
when the body and mind
just won't engage,
work – no focus,
people – a disconnect,

a time to hide
to re-energise,
calls it,

he calls it –
a 'cave day'

FLOOD

and again the rain,
the water fills
breaks levies
rises dramatically
unexpectedly

invades all personal
space no
courtesy no
consideration

* * * *

facing up to the
2nd or 3rd time
in 2 years, the
sheer influx
of and heartbreak

'how do I live here
with this
perpetual invasion of...'
perpetual torment / torrent
perpetual drain

diminished spirit

* * * *

a lake not there yesterday
full of silted water
rising
anxiously standing in unrelenting
rain

not catching
the lounge chair disaster vigil...
the lounge
will have to be replaced,
the electricity
restored

* * * *

neighbours helping neighbours
saving what they can,
utes and vans

what else
can fit?

is there room for?

where will we
sleep?

what will the kids
need tomorrow?

god... that was
mum's good...

* * * *

sometimes so fast
no time to

sometimes the call to
evacuate is not
in the realms of
believability...

hoisted of
roofs -
hours later -
no possessions

* * * *

muddy river thundering
muddy lake swelling
muddy water invading

mud
dumped in every corner
in every crevice

dumped and caked on
just left
muddy
dirty

not
just

just
pissed off.

~~ONCE~~

once,
just a generation ago,
staying in a hotel or resort,
having a pool in the backyard,
a washing machine, a colour tv
was a sign of privilege and wealth

yet today...

~~once~~, now
in some places
in current times
it would seem
food and water are still
a privilege

how is this possible?

who's responsible for this?

aren't we?

can't we...?

be just

just

once, now?

SNAPPED

a water fall
in a photo

instant in...

snapped

not real
really not

like
getting wet
in the moment

poems
too,
are
snapped

JUST

relatively,
against past eras violent
hostile and unforgiving
and in this country where
i now find myself where
things are pretty damn
good food longevity stresses
opportunities law and
order almost anything
on almost any menu
go to almost anywhere
on the land on my feet
more often than
not a bad place to be
at and...

so i wonder
if re-incarnation is part of the
higher scheme of things and
things may not have been so good,
or may not be again...

is this one a
a reward to savour
to only fill with selfish desire
to flaunt

or is it an opportunity for
something
else

else
is it just?

DIGIFICATION

he arrived early for class,
plugged into a little blind guardian
keeping the outlook young,
energised and inspired

time connecting
with friends – games,
music, streamed tv
series, events

text-versations
txtspking, txttalking -
events, thoughts,
connections, drama

morning break
out of the obligation,
to what's 'real', to / o
what's important

hand held net
face book-ins
twitterisms, you
tubing, tapped
in

digital is the medium
connections still human
and chasing the full
rainbow of affirmations...

EXCUSE

/ not?

in the early days
before the internet
but some time
after the dinosaurs

there were second-hand
books and records
and tapes and
kids scratching
for change

it's just that now
pirates float on
online where access
is easier

and yet
there are still
those who will
front the cash
pay the bill...

cause they can

/

have no excuse

EXTEND

take a moment
to accept the
look from a
passing acquaintance,
smile back
and extend a
'good morning'

you'll feel,
they'll feel,

then they'll

take a moment
to...

CREATE

string a basket, build
a table, manicure a
hedge, snap a photo,
carve a statue, write
a song, paint a
sunset, rebuild a car,
renovate a house, work
an equation, pen a
poem, sculpt a brooch,
knit a scarf, design
a bridge, dress some
hair, tattoo a heart,

birth a child...

visualise it
realise it

create.

create...

a natural addiction

WHEN?

again page blank memory overload
reflecting back on me, flooding back
in dire
to straits
soundtrack to
so too
i wish

somehow i find myself
on the other side of
looking
looking on
you
looking for
something else,
in me

now
when
it did

when
did it all go?

COST

while at
the cost
of

it's hard to
not pay
respect
to the enormity
of actualisation of
so many
in
 lucky
countries

the achievements
of those that
have stretched o u t

when opportunity
knocked
individual excellence
realised,
so many
so much

is
the cost of it
a
part, a factor?
or does it
have to be
at the
cost of...
/ at all?

REACHING

it's the way that
you frame
your,
 flow
your,
 deliver
your,
 feel
your,

bring life to
your

words

that
has me

r e a c h i n g ,

my
discontent,

my
envy,
(is it not? /
if we get down to it...)

my
challenge

ACHIEVING

quietly achieving
for human kind
 / giving back
unbeknownst to
students striving
workers toiling

Carter versus worms
Gates versus malaria
but...
still looking for
food and water
 for all...

if so many gave
so little,
each,
to...

we could all be
quietly achieving
for...

IGWS

EMFBI

this is FYEO (SCNR)

IMHO

this may be a CWOT

but AFAIC

it's a pretty efficient way
to chat, IYSWIM

i say:

G4I,

WYT,

WTH

GGN

C ya.

just maybe...

TMA

(Reference: NetLingo.com)

(IGWS: It Goes Without Saying)
(EMFBI: Excuse Me For Butting In)
(FYEO: For Your Eyes Only)
(SCNR: Sorry Could Not Resist)
(IMHO: In My Humble Opinion)
(CWOT: Complete Waste of Time)
(AFAIC: As Far As I'm Concerned)
(IYSWIM: If You See What I Mean)
(G4I: Go For It)
(WYT: Whatever You Think)
(WTH: What The Heck)
(GGN: Gotta Go Now)
(C ya: See You)
(TMA: Too Many Acronyms)

LET

the sun is coming up
on another day the
months of rain may well
have passed for the
present new
feeling new
drama can

but let me decide
to not let
not, rather
find some essence in
the dawn
the wonder, say
in the words of
a special
artist letting in
only that
which bares
fruit

love, joy and
creativity

THEM

a majority called for
change, yet are
surprised that that
may well impact

on
them

YOUTH

the beauty of
time, relaxed
connected
fun fresh new
discovery
challenge
maybe a little nervousness
 self-consciousness
 uncertainty
inquiring
finding almost
unwittingly (instinctively
the joy
the opportunities
the wealth
the beauty
 / of

DIG

while busy packing
and running out
the door, they
dig at us
about our
renewed
co-dependence

some may just think
it's love

LABELS

neoliberal democratic
rock socialist techno
indi rock conservative
post punk anarchy
right wing classical
aristocratic pop
monarchy

come on!!

is that really
a thing?

CONVENTION

all structure
and pomp

all trusses
and beams

all suits
and ties

all rhyme
and reason

all convention
and rules

just
sometimes,

now
and then

it could be,
maybe, rhyme
no reason,

just

words
and
thoughts

NEWER

demand for
driven by
by the vigour
of youth
things newer
 better
 greater

different

else history,

might be
a little
dry

SNUBBING

and so
the cordon bleu
is actively snubbing
the steak
and veg

playing '*us and them*'
projecting superiority
hogging the plate
setting the flavour
directing delivery
bullying...

sometimes
fair play
is just not
on the menu

EMPOWERING

g iven life's many opportunities, and
o ur need to know it now,
o rigami or thermodynamics, we
g leam what and when and how,
l ook to curb our ignorance, we
e licit what we need... then devour

i t's been millennium in becoming,
t ake it in, take it on, search for it...
empower

or maybe...

G rans finding heavy metal
O n a site that's free to stream,
O scar's investigating zombies
G iven he loves to watch and scream,
L arry's trawling sites on time travel
E veryone thinks it's just a dream.

I magine life without this, so few years
ago
T o type in what you seek,
then view it there on screen...

MODULARISATION

train carriages
 un-coupled
 and re-
linked

if it were
easy...
 we'd all
 have
low coupling

and if then
each carriage
 was clearly labelled,
 self contained,
 had a single
 purpose,

we'd have
high
cohesion

and

great
reusability

SWEATING

sweat beads

you
call,

it's
plastic –

the shirt
 you know
i
wonder whether...
the sun
 or
 maybe my...

but it's
all just
starting to
smell

CHILDREN

the sun rises
with good intent,

even with the odd
sting of heat

but the
children of,
the
children the
grand children
of the sun,
/

what of their
intent, what
warmth will they,
what search result
what application
what platform will
they serve?

CYCLES

and so

 rush hour

 talk back

 mall mania

all does

 does it

 get to it

 all said

 all written

 all illuminated

or all

 repeated

 over and...

 emotion driven

 cycles of

looking good

being good

feeling good

like watching the
hands on a
clock, go
round
and

MIGHT

could i take from you
cheat you
lie to you
hide from you
deceive you
threaten you
belittle you
strike you down
take life
take limb
from you

or...

could i give flour and rice
if you desperately
needed flour
needed rice

could i empower you
if you needed more
than just flour
just rice

provide added security
should you need it,
befriend you,
be there for you,

might i even ask...

what can i do for you?
what do you need?

PILING

been
shitting again
in the
backyard?

didn't notice?

doesn't stink
enough yet?

you know
the shit
just keeps on
piling up...

and
we're
already
feeling
pretty sick
out here

CLEARLY

tell me what it is
tell me what to take
tell me what to do
tell me how to deal
tell me how to adjust
tell me how to feel
tell me who else to see

all
out of focus
me

tell me
just
tell me
how
to (focus

see this

clearly

DOWN

judgement
and anger
coming
down

you
chomp away at
me just reeling
wondering
just
what the ...

and then
judging you
right back

no respect (*really?*)

wondering,

are we
down
yet?

APPRECIATING

horrid traffic carving / slicing
stops me dreaming

road-based asphalt frustration
quashes me perceiving

long days filled empty tasks
voids me wondering

yet,

listing crafted prose
a place / a space for idealising

up-beat stream a melody of calm
inspires a little pondering
pure deliberating

your melancholy comes to
 / comes through to
this passenger,
 now so,
 so
fully appreciating,
 visualising,
 verbalising,
now composing and creating,

 is now so...

VOICE

the calmness
the serenity
you offer up so
so freely,
so clearly

it's just the
way you are;

/

songs write from
my guitar, poems
dance around
the car

/

i can,

you have,

given me a
choice,

and what i
do feel is,

you've
given me back my
voice;

thank you!