

I Feel Tired

I'm tired boss. . . . Mostly I'm tired of people being ugly to each other.

I'm tired of twisting balloon animal
politicians contorting and distorting
truth in favor of a game show reality
proclaiming their self-righteous selves
winners, preferring to offer band-aids
and bloodsucking leeches as the sole
remedies for healing.

I'm tired of bloviating instant authorities,
recipients of degrees from the YouTube
School of Graduate Studies, mistaking
confirmation of previous belief for examination
of subjects with any sort of scholarly rigor
and yet cocksure of positions unsupported
by expert consensus.

I'm tired of the general sportification
of human endeavor diminishing and simplifying
complexity and nuance into a clash
between teams with a winner-take-all
attitude when what is needed is
understanding and compromise
not more conflict.

I'm tired of status quotidian thinkers
looking for paths back to normal,
the fat of bell curve – not the higher stanines
of innovation, instead losing again opportunities
to begin more intelligently, to learn from the past
rather than acquiesce to its repetition, nostalgic
eyes at the rear.

I'm tired of abuses, misuses, excuses –
of all that confuses and produces the slime
that oozes from the mouths of the 24-hour news
while death from a million cuts reduces and loses
the better angels of our nature who press our yearning
for peace at last, peace at last, thank god almighty,
peace at last!

*I'd give you everything I've got
For a little piece of mind*

– Jeffery Greb