

# April Sunrise in Greenland<sup>1,2</sup>

MICHAEL BECKERMAN

Could an article be a poem,<sup>3</sup>  
In the field<sup>4</sup> of Musicology?  
Or would that be absurd,  
Like a fish studying biology?<sup>5</sup>

Do not worry, reader dear,  
Whatever is your clime,  
There isn't any need at all  
For such a poem to rhyme<sup>6</sup>

I'll shift again to something full and clean<sup>7</sup>  
To argue  
That those who would change the world

- 
- <sup>1</sup> This title has nothing to do with what follows, at least it was not my intention for it to be part of the 'article's' 'field of meaning'. Some readers, however, might think otherwise which is the way it goes with programmatic works.
  - <sup>2</sup> The writer (i.e. 'me') would like to make it clear that he has the greatest respect, affection, and even love for the SMI, and that this effort should in no way be seen as reflecting his thoughts about this Society, but rather certain aspects of contemporary academic behavior.
  - <sup>3</sup> See Mona K. Moysch. 'The Anagram as a Cure for Language'. Nano Press, 2022.
  - <sup>4</sup> An area of endeavor. A collection of thinkers or practitioners pursuing a goal. A way of enforcing narrow modes of thinking.
  - <sup>5</sup> The question of dolphin intelligence has not yet been established, but projects using AI suggest that AI will allow us to have conversations with dolphins—whether they are fish or not—within 7 years and 8 months.
  - <sup>6</sup> If the pun is the 'lowest form of wit' (Charles IV) then certainly doggerel is the lowest form of poetry (Charles V) and has no place, even at the beginning of this 'article'. [The footnote to this footnote, carried on as a mirror to eternity asks whether this semantic object could possibly be called an article.]
  - <sup>7</sup> See the following popularized and incomplete explanation of the history of iambic pentameter: <https://poets.org/glossary/iambic-pentameter>.

Through new subjects<sup>8</sup>  
Should not put new wine  
In old barrels  
Or old wine  
In new ones<sup>9</sup>

(I wish I may I wish I might  
That my field was wild and ludic  
But in the end, it tends to be ...  
A little bit Talmudic)

Let's begin again:

If you start with what you do not know  
Rather than what you do  
You'll find the task much harder friend,  
Before the task is through<sup>10</sup>  
(In other words  
If you fill a space with facts and jargon  
You will forget  
That every fact and every line, every letter and every space  
Asks questions we cannot answer)<sup>11</sup>

If we are free,  
As free we must be,  
Then the word and thought  
Of each is sacred<sup>12</sup>

---

<sup>8</sup> To ruin any possible nuance, we are speaking here of the tendency for people to claim a legacy of 'structural oppression' while virtually replicating the shape of colonialism, elitism, authoritarianism, in the typical 'thick discourse' scholarly article, almost certainly written in an argot that the oppressed of the world could never understand.

<sup>9</sup> 'The Tale of Wines and Barrels', Book of Petipha, Naftali Press, 1993. The metaphor of wines and barrels is a cheap one. Sorry.

<sup>10</sup> The writer of this 'article' claims that there was actually no *intention* behind the return to the previously disparaged doggerel, and that this happened by random chance. The writer also says that if you believe this, you are likely to believe anything.

<sup>11</sup> This is a dangerous cop-out and casts aspersions on the brave, brave, brave work being done in the field, where people feel the responsibility to write about the disenfranchised, the marginalized, the dispossessed and the damned, to stick those articles on a cv, and use them to climb the academic ladder. This footnote is in no way whatsoever critical of comments such as, 'I despise the neo-liberal university, and unless you double my salary I'm going to Harvard!'

<sup>12</sup> In other words, please, if you can, do not let other people tell you what to say and how to think.

A theory may be pathetic,  
Subtle or athletic,  
But as a rule its basic trick  
Is to *s m o o t h* things out and cherry pick<sup>13,14</sup>

Some ideas roll in the muck,  
Others are more dressy,  
Theories, then, are rather neat,  
Reality is messy<sup>15</sup>

CFP: Are traditional ways of presenting information  
Adequate for the purportedly new approaches in the field?  
Conference to be held wherever you are, whenever you want.  
All papers accepted

Konec<sup>16</sup>

Disclaimer: no AI was used in the generation of this document<sup>17</sup>

---

<sup>13</sup> *TimeOut* magazine offers some useful information on where you can pick cherries in the New York area: <https://www.timeout.com/new-york-kids/things-to-do/pick-your-own-cherries-near-nyc>

<sup>14</sup> Yeah, yeah, yeah, but it's not so simple. T.S. Eliot wrote his doctoral dissertation (never defended!) on the idea that you can't perceive reality without a theory. Or maybe he only meant that he couldn't?

<sup>15</sup> But isn't the very notion of 'reality' as posed, also a theoretical postulate?

<sup>16</sup> Czech for 'ending' or 'the end' and also the name of a sausage shop in Bay Ridge Brooklyn, postal code 11220.

<sup>17</sup> That is, so far as I can tell.