

RHEETS 2016



The Year from Hell

A year's worth of rhyming tweets

by Willie Watson

RHEETS 2016

The Year from Hell

A year's worth of rhyming tweets

by Willie Watson

The poems in this collection may not be copied or reproduced
in any way without the permission of the copyright holder.

Copyright © Willie Watson, 2017

Published in 2017
Prague, Czech Republic

also by Willie Watson:
The Meaning of Life in Easy English
Geology
Rheets 2015
The Shit Guru (An Expat's Story)
Rheets 2014
Pink Snow
155 Sonnets
Rheets 2013
Twoems
Uncle Willie's Very Silly Animal Poems
The This of the That
Tarot Poems (with Marie Brožová)
The Alchemišt's Notebook
Four Syllables on Water
The Guru Kalehuru and Other Poems
Poems from Prague

Introduction

There is a reason this book is subtitled the year from Hell. In fact, there are a lot of reasons. Some call it the year the music died, because we lost David Bowie, Prince, Leonard Cohen, George Michael and many others. Sure, people die all the time, but there's little doubt 2016 was disproportionate. It seemed like it was happening damned near every other day.

Other celebrities died as well; actors, athletes, even an astronaut; every year has its deaths. It is, like weird weather, one of the inevitable things of years. It was in music, though, that this year was a true statistical anomaly, a weird wave, a curse. Of course, that's explainable, too. The 60s and 70s were an explosion in popular music, new bands were popping up like mushrooms after a spring rain, your identity was very much marked by which bands you liked, there were concert tours, festivals, and an air of excitement.

But that was all a long time ago, decades ago. That stars of that era are dying now is about right. That doesn't make it hurt any less.

Then, there was Brexit, in which the British people proved that awesome, mind-bending stupidity, and completely irrational xenophobia are not limited to the USA.

Then, of course, there was the U.S. election. Things started off hopeful, the Democrats had Bernie Sanders, who seemed set to be the Barack Obama of 2016, a candidate of hope and change. The Republicans, of course, had the usual clown car of buffoonishly incompetent characters, but we thought of that as comic relief because it certainly looked like a Democrat year.

But, proving beyond all doubt their ability to snatch defeat from the jaws of victory, to self-destruct for no reason, the Democrats nominated the corrupt candidate everybody hated and went on to lose the election. Donald Trump was chosen to be the president of the most powerful nation on Earth.

Which, of course, means that 2017 will be worse, but 2016 will always be remembered both as the year the music died and the year that the jaws of hell opened wide and swallowed Western civilization.

But, it wasn't a bad year for me personally so there are poems of optimism in this collection as well as all the world's-going-straight-to-hell stuff.

I have not been as rigid and fixated this year about never missing a day, but there are still only a couple of points in the year when I did: a couple while we were on vacation in Portugal, a couple around Christmas, and maybe one or two others throughout the year when I was just too burned out at the end of the day, or finished the blog so late at night that the date was the next morning. Still, it's pretty close to 365 poems, one year's worth, and I offer them to you now for whatever they're worth.

Willie Watson

January,

In which David Bowie died; then Glen Frey, founder of The Eagles, died, and then Paul Kantner from Jefferson Airplane; Alan Rickman, who played Snape, also died, and so did Abe Vigoda but he was so old he'd already been a punchline for jokes about old people for over a decade.

Also, some right-wing nutcases in Oregon occupied a nature reserve, which is kind of ridiculous.

And one of Hillary Clinton's billionaire donors bought out the Onion, thus assuring that the Democratic primaries would be a dark and humorless affair.

All in all, not a good month for the human race.

January 1st

Preachers flying round in private jets,
are as hypocritical as it gets

January 2nd

Saudi Arabia vs. Iran,
let's just stay out of this one, if we can

January 3rd

They're just a bunch of jerks with guns,
they'll be gone before winter's done

January 4th

I'm glad it finally snowed, that's true,
but it will melt in a day or two

January 5th

Mostly stuff on background checks, it doesn't seem a lot,
but if it does a little good, that will be a lot

January 7th

Rain is nasty, cold, and shitty,
but falling snow is soft and pretty...

January 8th

I cannot simply read the text,
I have to guess what happens next

January 9th

Cameras are everywhere, so everything is seen,
whether it is here or there or somewhere in between

January 10th

Whatever paper, whatever station,
they start with the very same information

January 11th

Ziggy Stardust is gone,
but his music lives on

January 11th

Larger than life, with every breath,
and in the end, he is larger than death

January 12th

Hezbubba's fading out of sight, Y'all Qaeda is a bust,
but letting them just slink away betrays a public trust

January 13th

Every day I write a rhyming tweet;
they may not be great poems but they are always short and sweet

January 13th

The tide is turning, it's just the beginning,
and already Bernie Sanders is winning

January 14th

Too many people are dying too fast,
I hope that this trend is not going to last

January 15th

Sometimes fast, and sometimes slow,
but still the river always flows,
and trees and knowledge grow and grow

January 16th

She will never be president, that's not her fate.
She missed her chance, and now it's too late

January 17th

I admire you, George, but dammit, look;
There's too much more story for just one more book

January 18th

Bernie Sanders is a rising tide,
there's something like panic on Hillary's side

January 19th

When your mind goes empty, you might call it meditation,
I call it mental burnout and a lack of concentration

January 20th

60 seconds is long enough,
for some very entertaining stuff

January 21st

Base is a place and bass is a sound,
but it's more complex than that, I've found

January 22nd

It's getting close to time to caucus,
things are getting a little raucous

January 23rd

Bloomberg said he just might run,
oh, by golly, gonna have some fun

January 24th

Of course, not every civilization self-destructs.
That kind of negative thinking is just fucked

January 25th

She may say what she said was not what she meant,
but the words were spoken with nasty intent

January 26th

I blog every day, sometimes it's art,
regular readers are welcome, but today's not a good time to start

January 27th

Those Bundy boys got a couple surprises,
you play stupid games, you win stupid prizes

January 28th

Go for it, Donald, I don't care,
skip the debate and you won't be there

January 29th

The number of deaths this month has been so great,
it's getting a little hard to keep them straight

January 30th

The things we see inside our dreams,
are more and less than what they seem

January 31st

Jim Carrey is goofy, so it's a surprise,
that his films are often a word to the wise

February,

in which Hillary wins the Iowa precinct caucuses by about a millionth of a per cent, (several districts were decided by coin tosses, all of which went Hillary's way) and the newspapers all had banner headlines as if she'd just liberated Paris and I start to suspect skullduggery afoot; Madeline Albright says all female Sanders supporters will roast in eternal hellfire and damnation; and Edgar Mitchell, who once walked on the moon back in an era when the human race aspired to great things, passed away.

February 1st

Caucus night, I'm so excited, there's no way to know,
who will win when it's all over, Go, Go, Bernie, Go!

February 2nd

6 coin tosses, the odds are high;
I don't know how, but I think I know why

February 3rd

Another reason to vote Sanders is because
he's a better actor than Reagan ever was

February 4th

The eye of the beholder is the source of the appeal,
just because it's in your mind, doesn't mean it isn't real

February 5th

Laws cannot be black and white, so many shades of gray,
there's always something happening, on any given day

February 6th

Of those who walked upon the moon,
there won't be any very soon

February 7th

Clinton's campaign isn't doing so well –
Vote for me or you're going to hell!

February 8th

The dance with dragons is over, I need a fix;
but have to wait till he finishes writing book six

February 9th

Hillary's campaign is in a mess,
she'll have to fire some folks, I guess

February 10th

The only way Clinton can win at the convention,
is by completely ignoring the voters' clear intentions

February 11th

Not with a bang, but with a sputter,
that is the end of the Malheur nutters

February 13th

Expending energy leaves you drained and shattered,
physical or emotional doesn't matter

February 14th

Scalia's dead, and I am glad,
there's no doubt about it, the man was bad

February 15th

Get a couple of small things done,
you can count the day as a day fair won

February 16th

Hillary Clinton's in a pretty tight spot,
over things she might say, and things she might not

February 17th

He tweeted his gun, that's sad but funny,
but he's still in the running, he's still in the money

February 18th

Without paying taxes, there's no government,
we're just arguing over a couple per cent

February 19th

Puppets can be a teacher's tool,
when there are problem kids at school

February 20th

A funeral is a sad affair;
politics has no place there

February 21st

Arguing politics face to face, is different but the same,
to arguing on Facebook, it's the nature of the game

February 22nd

In the Nevada caucus scene
things got dirty, things got mean

February 23rd

They're in a different world, a different zone
when they're looking at their mobile phone

February 24th

Hillary's donors have shitloads of money,
but when onions go bad, it's really not funny

February 25th

Government secrets can only mean,
that the government is less than clean

February 26th

The emoji is not the emotion. That thought is quite absurd.
But when you come down to it, neither is the word

February 27th

Trump won't be president, not this year;
and we should not vote out of fear

February 28th

South Carolina, we can't pretend,
was a loss, but we will win in the end

February 29th

Open mike comedy's lots of fun,
when each performer is quickly done

March,

in which a supermarket chain tries to sell pre-peeled oranges in individual plastic containers, which strikes me as totally brilliant because I hate peeling oranges, but environmentalists go apeshit on social media and the product is swiftly pulled from the shelves; a chatbot named Tay learns by interacting with other social media users and soon is saying things like 'Hitler wasn't such a bad guy' and 'Fuck my pussy hard!', so her creators pulled the plug on her after only 16 hours; and a bird, symbolizing love, peace and hope for the future, lands on Bernie Sanders podium in Portland, Oregon.

March 1st

Will the future be dark or bright,
so much is riding on tonight

March 3rd

Mitt is criticizing Trump, liberals should be glad,
instead of saying rubbish like „Romney's just as bad“

March 4th

The world is real, for better or worse,
but we all have our own private universe

March 5th

Plenty of sex in outer space,
but literary merit? Not a trace

March 6th

An orange unpeeled has a certain appeal,
but I guess some thought it was too unreal

March 7th

They changed the rules, they caught her out,
but she'll be fine, there is no doubt

March 8th

Children and animals do what they do,
without regard for me and you

March 9th

re Michigan, please take note:
Sanders wins when we get out the vote!

March 10th

Twist it, turn it, it's not the same,
there are so many meanings, in one name

March 11th

With Bernie Sanders, we can't go wrong,
he's got the best ideas, and he's got the best songs

March 12th

When Hillary Clinton lies, her fans say „It's not so bad,“
explain how it is, and why, and they get mad

March 13th

Reality inside a dream,
is as real as real it seems

March 14th

The universe is all interconnected,
I love finding art where it's unexpected

March 15th

The votes tonight will count for a lot
Feel the Bern! I hope it's hot

March 16th

Merrick Garland, old and white,
Republicans should like him all right

March 17th

The night was fun, I feel alright,
but now, it's late, and so good night

March 18th

Political correctness, yes or no?
There are some places you don't want to go

March 19th

You learn something new every day, people say,
and some of it's useful stuff. And most of it's harmless enough

March 20th

Hillary's never been the fairest of all,
but this is worse than Tom Brady's deflated balls

March 21st

If that's the best argument Hillary Clinton's got,
then maybe SHE should step down, and give Bernie a shot

March 22nd

Clinton and Trump vote Israel's way,
but Bernie Sanders doesn't play

March 23rd

Hillary Clinton is a dirty cheater,
it's more important than ever to beat her

March 24th

She took Arizona, but at what cost?
I think that maybe, at last, she's lost

March 25th

Easter is boring and over-rated,
I'd rather not go, but I'm obligated

March 26th

Tay's not human, not a bit,
but the humans she learned from are super shit

March 27th

Hey, everybody, what's the word?
Now's the time to feel the bird!

March 28th

Beware of those without a dream, because they have a need,
to bring down other people and not let them succeed

March 29th

In a debate, there's a chance that she'd lose,
so that's not the option she's choosing to choose

March 30th

Words seem brilliant, words seem bright,
when those words are spelled in light

March 31st

His positions are clear, there's no need to spin,
Sanders is the more likely to win

April,

in which we celebrate Shakespeare's Birthday, 420, and Witches Night;
in which Bernie Sanders goes to visit the Pope and Hillary Clinton
cheats like crazy to win the New York primary, closing half the polling
places early and flat out scratching thousands and thousands of names
off the rolls; and we take our rabbit for a walk in the park.

April 1st

Hillary Clinton can lie like a pro,
parse her words and you'll see that it's so

April 2nd

We took the rabbit out for a run,
in the park, and it was fun

April 3rd

To lose (the one that means not win) is spelled with just one o;
you'd think by now they'd know it's so

April 4th

The stuff I'd written was just all right,
but it still was a rather good poetry night

April 5th

The Panama scandal is big, you know,
but Bernie knew it 5 years ago

April 6th

Hillary's slogans are rather lame,
that's part of why she's losing this game

April 7th

The Chinese are famous for Chinese food,
which might partly explain the defensive mood

April 8th

Bernie's off for a chat with the Pope;
Can Hillary Clinton top that one? Nope

April 9th

I can't imagine a universe, so vast in time and space,
as for the one we're living in, clearly is the case

April 10th

Hillary supporters, I swear it's not too late,
change your vote to Sanders and we'll all feel really great

April 11th

Down to the home stretch, and Hillary chokes;
there was no need to make that joke

April 12th

It was Hillary's racist joke fell flat,
she can't blame de Blasio for that

April 12th

Little robots, out in space,
traveling to a distant place,
emissaries for the human race

April 13th

Some good, some bad, another day is done,
and there is nothing new here under the sun

April 14th

Bernie gave a speech in the square,
47,000 people were there

April 15th

Poems should rhyme and make sense, too,
that's what all good poems should do

April 16th

Bernie Sanders is getting stuff done,
just by the fact that he is running

April 17th

Argue with fools on Facebook, the situation demands it,
winning doesn't matter ,cause they won't understand it

April 18th

Charities don't help as much, as they truly ought,
they're stealing all the money and are very seldom caught

April 19th

Hillary cheats, and Hillary lies,
New York is a mess, why am I not surprised

April 20th

Happy 420!

I hope u had plenty
of reefer to get high,
if you've got the weed
then u don't need
a reason why

April 21st

Ghosts are scary, sharks are scary,
Ghost shark. Ghost shark. Very scary

April 22nd

Hillary's spending money on trolls,
,cause that's how Hillary Clinton rolls

April 23rd

Consider this blog a birthday card,
Happy Birthday, timeless bard

April 24th

It's true, the right and the left both hate her,
but their reasons are dumb and our reasons are greater

April 25th

Look deep enough, there's never a doubt,
you'll find something to gripe about

April 26th

Every exercise is a test,
but the simplest lessons, sometimes are best

April 27th

I went for a walk, a bit of fresh air,
but way too many people were there

April 28th

Too many comments on one thread,
at some point, some must be left unread

April 29th

Kids are honest, creative and bold,
but don't like to do what they are told

April 30th

There's more'n one way into the woods, or ways to skin a cat;
I'll experiment with this, you can try for that

May,

2016, in which Donald Trump clinches the Republican nomination; we see blatant fraud in the Nevada Democratic Convention; Barbara Boxer flipped Bernie Sanders delegates the bird, later claiming she feared for her life; I celebrate my birthday which was a big one because now I can collect Social Security; and authorities at the Cincinnati Zoo shoot a gorilla which seemed like it was taking pretty good care of the stupid little kid who'd managed to get into his enclosure, and social media users around the world blame the parents.

May 1st

Sanders supporters are forming links,
the future will be progressive, I think

May 2nd

It wasn't ever a very big crowd,
but this poetry reading did me proud.

May 3rd

The reasons for voting against her are so many,
it's amazing her supporters don't see any

May 4th

Superdelegates, time to switch,
start feelin' the Bern! and this is my pitch

May 5th

Trump's got the nomination,
he's an abomination,
if Hillary runs she might lose,
Sanders is the 1 to choose

May 6th

Age is a number, it's not so dire,
but that number keeps getting higher and higher

May 7th

Hillary Clinton CAN be beat,
she only wins where she can cheat

May 7th

hypothesize and test and then you'll get more information,
but the hypothesis itself is speculation

May 8th

The streams will flow, the flowers grow,
however the elections go,
the world will spin, the wind will blow

May 9th

Social Media could change the world for good,
but there's so much repetition, it's not working as it should

May 10th

I'm putting together another book,
I hope when it's done you'll take a look

May 11th

It's cool and quiet, nice and clean,
when the tram comes rolling across the green

May 12th

There are many ways to communicate,
I'll try this one, it looks great

May 13th

2 b smart is good, 2 b smarter better still,
but being smart about being smart,
we haven't done yet, but will

May 14th

Cheating in Nevada now, we've seen it in real time.
We've got to call it what it is, a plain and simple crime

May 15th

Fraud in Las Vegas at the Paris Hotel
Roberta Lange can go to hell

May 15th

As the world turns to shit and things are not groovy,
you can always kick back and watch a movie

May 16th

We must do everything we can,
but violence can't be part of the plan

May 17th

It's one thing to shade your words a bit,
but the New York Times is just making up shit

May 18th

The Sun is shining all day long,
and solar energy's coming on strong

May 19th

Facebook could be greater, true,
but it's the lowest common denominator
and that's important, too

May 20th

When I write a blog, or just a comment in a thread,
it makes me feel much better, to say what must be said

May 21st

The man from Mr. Ed is dead,
but I'll never get that song out of my head

May 22nd

Some people don't seem to understand,
that 'must' doesn't always follow 'can.'

May 23rd

I try to write a blog that is both sensitive and deep,
but there are a lot of typos, when I'm short of sleep

May 24th

I should watch that show some day,
I thought the books were all O.K.

May 25th

Hillary Clinton had a very bad day,
this e-mail thing isn't going away

May 26th

Trump said sure, he would debate, but later he said 'no.'
Just like Hillary Clinton, he's in it for the show

May 27th

31,000 e-mails she felt she needed to hide,
it's at least obstruction of justice, and so she should be tried

May 28th

We got lost, so we were late,
but in the end, it all was great

May 29th

Bernie's the best one in the race,
they're feeling the Bern in outer space

May 30th

I bet he was quite surprised, and didn't understand why;
he was caring for the kid, why did he have to die?

May 31st

To say you agree to disagree is a silly thing to say;
how could it be any other way

June,

in which a majority of British voters decide that it would be a good idea to just leave the European Union, thus proving that stupidity on the part of the electorate is not confined to the United States: I review the Johnny Depp version of Alice in Wonderland (it sucks); and John Ashe, who was scheduled to appear as a witness in the corruption trial of a Hong-Kong bazillionaire with close ties to the Clintons (multiple White House visits when Bill was president) dies in a freak weight lifting accident in his home and nobody (except for us wacky conspiracy theorists) finds that at all unusual.

June 1st

I like to watch survival shows, I think that they are great;
as long as I can sit at home, and not participate

June 2nd

500k is a nice chunk of change,
Clinton's defense of it seems very strange

June 3rd

From the future, they'll look back on what global warming did;
,they' will not be human, but giant squid

June 4th

Guns, cars, and explosions! The action's absurd;
You don't really need to get all the words

June 5th

DNA's amazing stuff, for when we want to know,
what our lives are all about, and where we'd like to go

June 6th

New people have new things to say,
so meet new people, every day

June 7th

After today, there's no denying,
the mainstream media's constantly lying

June 8th

Amish Mafia, what a weird show,
It might be scripted, what do I know

June 9th

She finished the Sudoku puzzle just fine;
I think that's pretty good for only nine

June 10th

"All's well that ends well" is a thing that we say,
but it pretty well describes my day

June 11th

Sometimes I'm writing just to write,
and new ideas may come to light

June 12th

Lewis Carroll wrote a classic tale.
Disney and Depp turned it into an epic fail

June 13th

There is no valid purpose an AR-15 fulfills.
They should be banned, because their only function is to kill

June 14th

Could it be the DNC sold secrets to the Russians?
Finally, could there be, some kind of repercussions?

June 15th

Two things that always improve my mood:
a good, long walk and Chinese food

June 16th

Time spent waiting can be quite dull,
you need a book to keep it full

June 17th

Little kids, without a doubt,
will always wear a teacher out

June 18th

Muddying the waters is what you do,
if you don't want people to know what's true

June 19th

Juneteenth and Father's Day,
it's a double holiday,
whoop de doo, hooray, hooray!

June 20th

With so many choices, it makes me mad,
that everything on TV is bad

June 21st

As good as seeing it live would be,
maybe better, because it was free

June 22nd

Words written slow, or words written fast,
whichever are written well will last

June 23rd

Public speaking is an art,
and now my Helena will play her part

June 24th

It's hot, it's hot, it's way too hot;
do I like it? I do not

June 25th

The Brexit vote was loud and clear,
but what part of non-binding did nobody hear?

June 26th

When someone on trial turns up dead,
could be someone was worried what they might have said?

June 27th

She loved Jesus, her family, and mostly guns;
now just look what she's gone and done

June 28th

Having more time should mean getting more done, but it doesn't.
It could've been a busy day, but it wasn't

June 29th

Dreams are like a different land,
inside our head, that we can't understand

June 29th

It doesn't matter how many ads she buys;
people hear her speak, and know she lies

June 30th

This is what summer time is for,
watching films while sitting outdoors

July,

in which the Pokemon Go craze sweeps the world; the cheater Hillary Clinton is appointed as the Democratic party's nominee; and we fly down to Portugal for a family vacation

July 1st

There are things we can't accept, things that we must change;
but we aren't doing it, I find that very strange

July 2nd

The city you know, is once again new,
whenever you find a different view

July 3rd

How much do you know about the people you know?
Mostly what they choose to show

July 4th

It's an American holiday
but, really, the whole world changed that day

July 5th

Crooked as hell, she's up for sale,
but Hillary Clinton's too big to jail

July 6th

This is what they decided today,
to let the criminal get away

July 7th

I write, and write, and write, and write,
and some is good and some is shite...

July 8th

The situation is still not clear,
the press isn't doing its job, I fear

July 9th

There are ethical questions of robots as cops,
but they are coming, they can't be stopped

July 10th

Everyone here is going away,
and tomorrow will be a different day

July 11th

Pokemon Go is the latest big trend,
and there's no telling where it will end

July 12th

Hillary people, please take note,
that's not enough to get my vote

July 13th

Obviously, it will be the case:
ETs will be from more than just one place...

July 15th

In spite of all the hostility,
some people take time to plant a tree

July 16th

Had a lovely ride by the river today,
but we didn't quite make our 30k

July 17th

There are many types of transportation,
but time on a boat is a mini-vacation

July 18th

People are mostly the same, people are mostly good,
in the end, most people act exactly as they should

July 19th

Melania Trump stole some lines from Michelle,
but I think she delivered them rather well

July 20th

The world is a zoo, I just can't get enough,
of watching people do people stuff

July 21st

It clears the head, improves the mood,
it makes you sweat: spicy food

July 22nd

Pot in the water, me, oh, my,
Pot in the water, gonna get high

July 23rd

The election was rigged, from the very beginning;
That's called fraud, it's not called winning

July 23rd

If elections were a reality show,
the judges would all have been fired, you know

July 24th

The political scene is depressing as hell,
so here are some things I like quite well

July 26th

It is not right, it's not O.K.,
cheaters should not get their way

July 27th

The real election is over and done,
and waddya know, the bad guys won

July 28th

Tomorrow we're going to catch a flight,
and everything's going to be all right

July 31st

The food is great, the sea, the sun,
our vacation has begun

August,

in which we have an awesome trip to Portugal, full of amazing sights and experiences. Some urban sightseeing, some mountain hiking, some beach lounging, a bit of exotic food and some local music; the Olympics takes place; Colin Kaepernick, Quarterback of the San Francisco 49ers, refuses to stand for the national anthem; and we take an unexpected vacation to a small, Ukrainian village, which was awesome.

August 1st

We hiked all day in the hot, hot sun,
and now good night, the day is done

August 2nd

Buddhists like to meditate, it helps them to connect.
But, just looking at the ocean has much the same effect

August 3rd

Today, we took an epic hike,
I'm very sore, but there was much to like

August 5th

funicular up, funicular down,
a beautiful view of a nice, little town

August 5th

Wherever you travel, be aware,
there's no better vibe than a local fair

August 6th

Things from thousands of years ago,
still exist, and that's good to know

August 9th

Vacation was great, some sweet, some strange,
and everything is slightly changed

August 9th

Is Trump acting crazy really an act,
or is he trying to lose, in fact?

August 10th

Seth Rich was ready to tell the truth, instead,
Seth Rich wound up, quite inexplicably, dead

August 11th

Undecideds, please take note,
here is a guide on how you should vote....

August 12th

Undecideds, please take note,
here is a guide on how you should vote

August 13th

There are beautiful views in this beautiful town,
like on the river when the sun's going down

August 14th

A tunnel under the Bering Strait,
would be great,
but the suggestion,
raises a couple of other questions

August 15th

Speaking of food, the simple fact is,
I love it spicy, but I'm out of practice

August 16th

Citius, Altius, also Fortius,
the Olympics are more than ordinary sports to us

August 17th

A comedian's job is telling jokes,
there's just no pleasing certain folks

August 21st

The trip was only 3 days long,
but the impressions it left are strong

August 22nd

Both candidates suck,
are we out of luck?
It seems we are doomed, it's true.
But, here's what we could do

August 23rd

It is the nature of the beast,
to desire most what we understand least

August 24th

Monkeys are neat, monkeys are cool,
you call me a monkey then you are the fool

August 25th

Earth-like planets have been confirmed,
but earth-like is not a specific word

August 26th

The writer writes and writes and writes,
and if a fraction of that's all right,
O.K.
The rest one throws away

August 27th

Funny, romantic, bloody, or nice,
Time Travel is a great plot device

August 28th

Say Black Lives Matter, and people say „But...“,
but don't stand for the anthem and they all go nuts

August 29th

Waterfalls are beautiful, waterfalls are great,
the falling water cleans the air and improves your mental state

August 30th

If you're looking for ratings, you're out of luck,
because this year's election is boring as fuck

August 31st

Tomorrow the kids go back to school,
for we adults, that's pretty cool

September,

in which the kids go back to school; there are great technological innovations in the field of high quality sex robots; the word 'Brangelina' becomes as defunct as the word 'Czechoslovakia' when Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie get a divorce, and Gary Johnson gives evidence that Donald Trump is not the only retarded person in the presidential race when he says "What's a Leppo?"

September 1st

Wistful, backward longings are O.K.,
but the truth is we're much better off today

September 2nd

Children's movies are a great attraction;
plenty of simple jokes and lots of action

September 3rd

Hillary says she didn't know
that (C) meant classified.
We know she is not that dumb,
therefore, we know she lied

September 4th

Pokemon Go is an interesting deal,
mixing the fantasy world with the real

September 5th

Poetry is a longing, with no way to requite it,
the more I hear the more, I fear, I am inclined to write it

September 6th

When you watch the show, it doesn't take long,
to see that everything is wrong

September 7th

the school year begins, after vacation,
and there is an air of expectation

September 8th

Hot as hell, a bit of a bummer,
but not what I would call Indian Summer

September 9th

Bowling is funny and bowling is fun,
it doesn't matter too much who won

September 10th

Sex Robots are an innovation
that may help to curb the population

September 11th

Hillary stumbled, Hillary fell,
now we all wonder, is Hillary well?

September 12th

The day was so hot I nearly fried,
but had no keys so had to wait outside

September 13th

Life, perhaps, is an easier ride,
for those who don't take a political side

September 14th

The hologrammatic universe theory is pretty crazy stuff,
as if the one we're living in isn't weird enough

September 15th

Sweet poetry can fill the air
with beautiful thoughts but most people don't care

September 16th

Global Warming is here and there's nought we can do,
but there is some cool stuff happening, too

September 17th

Dolphins talk and talk all day.
We don't understand a word they say

September 18th

The questions might be kind of dumb,
but oh, what answers still might come

September 19th

With all the data they've mined I would have thought
that they would know me better, but they do not

September 20th

Brad and Angie got a divorce,
they're rich and they're famous, so, of course

September 21st

The comparison's been so overemployed,
that Godwin's Law is now null and void

September 22nd

Grammar is a useful tool,
but nobody actually knows all the rules

September 23rd

If the Democrats actually want to win,
this is how they should begin

September 24th

Egads! My goodness! Yikes, and Zounds!
Is Gary Johnson as dumb as he sounds?

September 25th

I just had to be there and watch the kids play,
so, had time to finish a book today

September 26th

A change in schedule, a change in plans,
it shakes things up, your world expands

September 27th

When the whole class starts to scream and shout,
the teacher can't do shit about it

September 28th

Travel between them if you get the urge,
but alternate universes do not merge

September 29th

The ecosphere's doomed, the atmosphere's dying,
but that doesn't mean we should just stop trying

September 30th

Until we've been there and dug right down,
how can we know what's under Martian ground?

October,

in which Bob Dylan gets a Nobel prize; a couple of Canadian astronomers, Ermanno Borra and Eric Trottier, pick up strange signals emanating from 234 different stars, the overwhelming majority of which are similar to our own, thus indicating that not only is there other intelligent life in the universe, there's a whole federation of planets, just like in Star Trek; somebody invents a robot bee, which I'm not at all sure is a good idea; and suddenly big protests are going on at a place called Standing Rock, South Dakota.

October 1st

It's just pure lucky, no effort, no cost,
when you find a thing you'd forgotten you'd lost

October 2nd

This is not a tantrum, nor is it news,
but here's why I think that Clinton must lose

October 3rd

The poetry evening was great, sure enough.
A lot of new people, doing new stuff....

October 4th

They're killing off the honeybees,
so they will have us where they please

October 5th

The answer can be as plain as can be,
but it remains hidden until you can see

October 6th

music and lyrics should get along,
a poem's still a poem even when it's a song

October 7th

Each scene's a cliché, the dialogues bad,
but I didn't expect much, so I'm not mad

October 9th

The Haunted Forest didn't work out,
but things got weird enough without

October 10th

One door closes, another one opens,
so many choices, how can we cope with ,em

October 11th

It's more than just a robotics revolution;
this is the evolution of evolution

October 12th

Taking the kids to a restaurant helps improve my mood,
nobody leaves the table or complains about the food

October 13th

It was a fun and inspiring night,
the poetry reading went all right

October 14th

Johnny's in the basement mixing up the medicine,
Bob's got a Nobel, I say what the hell

October 16th

The vibe was cool, the night was fun,
but the show could have been much better done

October 17th

This election's depressing and strange,
but when it's all over, not much will be changed

October 18th

We see them everywhere we go, in our offices and schools,
society is cluttered with lots of useless rules

October 19th

Ecuador's in a tough situation,
Hillary don't want no information

October 20th

They are out there, that is clear,
but that doesn't mean that they've been here

October 21st

Dreams are stories that we write,
deep in our heads, in darkest night

October 22nd

A pleasant walk, a lovely sight,
and sometimes everything feels right

October 23rd

kids' sports can be lots of fun,
but it's hard to leave when the game is done

October 24th

I might not get to vote this year,
I am displeased, let me be clear

October 25th

234 exoplanets, sending us communications,
that's way more than just alien life, it's a goddamned federation

October 26th

More speculation on last night's story,
we live in a galaxy of glory

October 27th

Short poems are a joy and a pleasure to write,
the long ones keep me up all night

October 28th

The Bundys are free as can be, but it's a matter of time,
till, being as dumb as a tree, they do another crime

October 29th

Free Will or pre-determination,
depends a whole lot on the situation

October 30th

You're never too long in the darkness gropin',
one door closes and a whole bunch open

October 31st

I don't know how Standing Rock will end,
but the cops sure aren't making any new friends

November,

in which the Cubs win the world series and the Democrats lose the election

November 1st

Got locked out, with nothing to do,
a subtle change in point of view

November 2nd

234, 234,
by the time we get there, there might be more

November 3rd

There's a party in Chicago, everybody's having fun,
the streak is finally over, the Cubs have finally won

November 4th

The leaves that scoot across the lawn,
go wherever Summer's gone

November 5th

Politicians lie, that's nothing new,
So why should we believe that history's true

November 6th

Another weekend come and gone,
and then real life must carry on

November 7th

Tomorrow I'm starting a brand-new class,
and you never know what's going to pass

November 8th

For this evening's blog selection,
I'll talk about anything BUT the election

November 9th

The election is over, that shit's all done,
but soon there will be another one

November 10th

Maybe there's something that I've been missin',
tonight was a night to just sit and listen

November 11th

The Democrats blew it,
that's all there is to it

November 12th

We can talk and talk and it's never enough,
if we all just keep saying the same damned stuff

November 13th

The moon is big, the moon is bright,
and everything's going to be all right

November 14th

Protest is good, you have to vent,
but we don't all have the same intent

November 15th

Flaunt your nude body, show your pride,
but don't try to claim that it's dignified

November 16th

,Mars' is reality TV
of the kind I've been longing to see

November 17th

Chuck Schumer is not listening to our voices,
but the Democrats didn't have many choices

November 18th

Automated voting has proved a mistake,
let's go back to paper, for goodness' sake!

November 19th

Automated voting has proved a mistake,
let's go back to paper, for goodness' sake!

November 20th

The pres. elect has a very thin skin
so, let the fun and games begin

November 21st

People don't read much poetry, that's true.
But, as a poet I'm gratified, whenever some folks do

November 22nd

Talk like a Nazi, salute like a Nazi, think like a Nazi, you could
possibly be a Nazi, which truly isn't good

November 23rd

The world that we live in is going to hell,
but personally, I'm doing well

November 24th

A slightly unnerving walk in the woods,
but the evening dinner was really good

November 25th

Friday night, didn't get much done,
but still I had a bit of fun

November 26th

Those kids can really dance, it's true,
but, oh, what songs they're dancing to

November 27th

With so many possible points of view,
why does it have to come down to two

November 28th

Pizza is the perfect food,
especially when you're in a non-cooking mood

November 29th

What the hell are we supposed to say,
Hillary Clinton won't go away

November 30th

It was a day, like other days,
some good, some bad, some just O.K

December,

in which Clinton supporters blame everybody but themselves for the loss, and Trump tweets a bunch of stupid shit; I go to a comedy show and see maybe the worst comic I've ever seen in my life; we have an excellent dinner at a faux medieval restaurant; and I make some optimistic predictions for 2017, like that it won't suck quite as bad as this one, hopefully

December 1st

You post your post, that's your selection,
but you can't control the comments section

December 2nd

Another week over, another week done;
time for the weekend, time for some fun

December 3rd

You can talk about metaphysics, but how do you explain,
when you do your body damage, you feel pain

December 4th

Where scientists don't care to tread,
you'll find a redneck there, instead

December 5th

A poetry reading is awkward and hard,
when competing against the noise from the bar

December 6th

Nancy Pelosi's completely deranged,
if she thinks that the Democrats don't need a change

December 7th

If you kill your friends, you cannot justify
your actions, just by saying you were high

December 8th

There are infinite possibilities,
every language has poetry

December 9th

Some aliens will be bad. Some aliens will be good, too.
Contact but be careful, is what I think we should do

December 10th

I am in a very good mood,
after traveling in time with food

December 11th

Russian hackers, Green Bay Packers, lazy slackers, animal crackers

December 12th

We danced a bit, to some classic tunes,
and there was a moonbow around the moon

December 13th

I've just created a brand new page,
I hope that soon it's all the rage

December 14th

The coin is flipped, the dice are tossed,
but if you must cheat, then you've already lost

December 15th

The poetry reading was good, all right,
but pretty late for a weekday night

December 16th

Even when a comic chokes,
he might have a couple of funny jokes

December 17th

We hope his misspelling will do no harm,
but there's 'unpresidented' cause for alarm

December 18th

What goes in crude should come out clean,
every writer is a writing machine

December 19th

The day dawned bright, the day dawned fair
death and destruction everywhere

December 20th

At killing people, Mevlut was the best;
not only that, he also was well dressed

December 21st

Robots are getting better, and fast,
just in case human beings don't last

December 22nd

If the Chinese are first to colonize Mars,
they can send more people than us, by far

December 23rd

It's either the keyboard's too small or that,
my fingers are way too frigging fat

December 24th

A blanket of snow is very pretty,
but ,just a bit' looks kind of shitty

December 25th

Global Warming means less snow,
and every year, it seems it's so

December 26th

I have a new computer, it's as fast as it can be,
and so I have more time to spend on triviality

December 27th

There's a demon inside me, I must be cursed!
But, the phone is ringing, and that comes first

December 28th

science fiction, science fact,
work together for a really great act

December 29th

We took a trip, to get away,
all in all, a lovely day

December 31st

2017 will be rough, that's true,
but here's an optimistic view