

# Cultural Daily

Independent Voices, New Perspectives

## Doug Mathewson: Three Poems

Doug Mathewson · Wednesday, July 20th, 2016

Doug Mathewson works from home in Connecticut as a writer, editor and photographer. Most recently his work has appeared in *Bartleby Snopes*, *The Boston Literary Magazine*, *Bop Dead City*, *Cloud City*, *Jersey Devil*, *Rocky Mountain Revival*, and the anthology *Scabies*. He is senior editor for *Blink-Ink*, a quarterly journal of fifty word fiction.

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## A Second Note

Spence wasn't going to do it, no way.

Such a selfish thing, her eating all those pills in that road side motel, and nobody sure why since the police kept her note.

His sister-in-law only and never a damned thing more to him.

Older brother Larry has six more years in Mohawk Correctional Facility way upstate New York and no week-end funeral pass even for his wife.

Spence knew he had to head the family and be a man about it.

First step was to forge a note to get himself out of school.

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## Reprieve

Unexpected early dismissal from jury duty  
left me on my own  
midday midweek midtown  
used book store cafe near the court tantalized me in  
juror parking was free so I still had ten bucks  
clerk with race-car tattoos and vertical hair  
took my six of my dollars  
for a poetry book and a scone  
scone was pear and almonds  
book was Richard Garcia  
both were great  
reading and eating in a sunny spot  
playing out my own alternate lives

with sailor me lost at sea  
when cowboy me moved to town  
disco me died too young  
astronaut me who never took off  
royal me without a throne  
monastic me who suffered alone  
the afternoon was passing  
time to head home  
the evening was still open  
for us to decide who to be

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## breathless

you exhale long  
and I, in your arms  
inhale deeply of  
oxygen depleted exhalation  
and get so dizzy  
lying close.

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