

# MUSINGS OF A STUDENT

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when we are first told  
That our dreams have no meaning  
it comes with an odd air of comfort  
Like when we are told  
That we don't get to choose  
The world we grew up in  
A dull satisfaction  
A limited retrieve of choice  
It disgusts me  
Orange in shades of death  
Yellow in shades of sick  
Vibrance is vile  
When complacency is all you know  
Why are you still awake

The city life is pushing on me  
I try to keep my head up  
The crowds pull it down  
I'm distracted and run into a light post  
I look up and see nothing, but  
Metallic Greys and synthetic blues  
Muted reds and dingy greens  
Softened, dilapidated purples  
Oranges in shades of death  
Yellows in shades of sick  
Vibrance is vile  
When dull is all you know  
Why are you still awake

They say “corporate life getting you down?  
 Go outside!” The fresh air is nice  
 But October means that everything is starting to die  
 The season is spooky for all the wrong reasons  
 I wonder if they call it that because  
 Life is such a wonder  
 And it’s wasted spending time inside  
 And watching it die scares us  
 I stare out the window  
 My lunch break ended ten minutes ago  
 And they won’t let me back out in it  
 In the  
 Oranges in shades of death  
 Yellows in shades of sick  
 Vibrance is vile  
 When work is all you know  
 Why are you still awake

Context

A beautiful thing  
 A world full of iridescence and light  
 Can be found  
 With honesty and love  
 But instead  
 We get hammers thrown at us from above  
 We stand up and we wake up and we find a chance  
 to live  
 And they take it from us  
 They push us down with busy work  
 As we stare out the window  
 Watching the world die  
 Watching our friends die  
 Watching ourselves die  
 Oranges in shades of death  
 Yellows in shades of sick  
 When pretense is all you know  
 Why are you still awake

I walk around my campus grounds  
The question echoes  
Why are you still awake  
I count the heads that are down  
As I walk the halls and I wonder  
Why are you still awake  
I turn the corner  
Another sign lingers  
Another sign offers me this dance asking  
Why are you still awake  
I'm still awake because  
I've seen the light before  
It's dark but we can find it  
Why am I still awake  
Because I have to be  
Because every waking moment I  
Wonder what life could be  
In spite of the way that it is  
And I cannot wonder asleep  
I remember when I was first told  
My dreams have no meaning  
And I told them to leave me be  
Because I dream in full color  
Shimmering silvers and deep, rich blues  
Neon reds and lively greens  
Vibrant, elucidated purples  
Oranges in shades of love  
Yellows in shades of gold  
Vibrance is light and life and hope  
Wake up with me and see the light  
Please  
Why are you still asleep?