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WORD: NERVE TIDAL GESTURES

EDWIN SCHLOSSBERG

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WORD : NERVE

A  
ABSOLUTE  
ADVANCE  
AFTER  
AGAIN  
AIR  
ALL  
ART  
AS  
AT

Words that bring so much  
together  
Words that mean so much.  
Each of the words have very  
extensive meanings-they each  
create a mood-from their  
associations within each word-  
and between the words of one  
particular letter-and between  
the words of each of the  
letters. Each word was  
selected because of its having  
the most multiple meanings  
and because it meant so much  
to me.

A  
ABSOLUTE  
ADVANCE  
AFTER  
AGAIN  
AIR  
ALL  
ART  
AS  
AT

Looking through words  
places form  
fall slowly together  
like evening  
arriving shadowing  
claims of the present  
time evaporates  
builds conversations  
tension mounts  
practice for the person  
now suddenly forming  
within you. Reach

B  
BACK  
BASE  
BE  
BEAR  
BEAT  
BED  
BLACK  
BLIND  
BLOCK  
BLOOD  
BLOW  
BLUE  
BODY  
BONE  
BOOK  
BOX  
BREAK  
BURN  
BY

Against the physical world  
nothing changes the process  
but flesh and bones  
dreams and whispers  
not coordinated  
never conscious  
breaking the swim  
towards the coldness  
or the ultimate heat

C  
CALL  
CAST  
CATCH  
CENTER  
CHARGE  
CHECK  
CHILD  
CIRCLE  
CLASS  
CLEAN  
CLEAR  
CLOSE  
COAST  
COLD  
COLOR  
COME  
COMMON  
COMPASS  
CONDITION  
CONTENT  
CONTROL  
COUNT  
COURSE  
COVER  
CRY

On my side are my wishes to  
understand  
on your side are my wishes to be  
understood  
on my side sits the sword  
on yours the possibility  
to make me wish  
It is never that we are restless  
it is that we are a living collective  
performing a task unchosen  
essential but without credentials  
lazily dragging our hand  
in the water our mark  
rebounds through the closest  
target  
through the further touch  
in a tidal gesture forever  
unmistakable



D  
DARK  
DAY  
DEAD  
DEEP  
DIRECT  
DISTANCE  
DO  
DOWN  
DRAW  
DREAM  
DRIFT  
DRIVE  
DRY  
DUST

On my side are my wishes to  
understand

on your side are my wishes to be  
understood.

on my side sits the actual

on yours the possible

on mine the wish

on your side the power

on mine the wonder  
reaching across vast deserts

on yours the intrusion  
verging on disregard

we meet now in your systems  
struggling to keep  
the window open  
between wishing and thinking

possibilities begin  
we are each everyone  
meeting in words  
an open request

E  
EARTH  
EASY  
EDGE  
ELECTRIC  
END  
ENTER  
EVEN  
EVER  
EVIL  
EXPRESS  
EXTRA  
EYE

Things are made  
by their boundaries  
nothing appears  
nothing surrounds us  
nothing is here  
our nerves gently firing  
except in fulfillment  
the motion towards everything  
gesturing in

F  
FACE  
FAIR  
FALL  
FALSE  
FAST  
FEEL  
FIELD  
FIGURE  
FINE  
FIRE  
FLASH  
FLAT  
FLOAT  
FLOW  
FLY  
FOLLOW  
FOR  
FORCE  
FORM  
FRAME  
FREE  
FRONT  
FULL

Words were made  
for thoughts to complain in  
the models surmounting  
the inevitable no  
each wish containing  
the evil comparative  
sitting in judgement  
whispering ill

the slow turn towards  
being observed  
quickens beside  
this shadow now whitened  
with artificial light  
pulsing in ribbons  
beneath your calm skin

G  
GAIN  
GAME  
GATE  
GENERAL  
GET  
GHOST  
GIVE  
GLASS  
GO  
GOOD  
GRACE  
GRAIN  
GREAT  
GREEN  
GREY  
GROUND  
GROUP  
GROW  
GUARD

Raining. Slow.  
Sounds slide. A version  
of torpor repeating  
in windows, by bookshelves  
in drawers crowded with notes  
some day now  
eyes lifting  
hoping to spot  
the reason for crying  
as if the next suspect  
might exist on the porch

Action starts slowly  
within each first second  
and nothing but dust  
is weighing its future  
nothing but action  
is needed in letters

There are whores in these words

H  
HAND  
HANG  
HARD  
HAVE  
HEAD  
HEART  
HEAT  
HEAVY  
HELD  
HERE  
HIGH  
HIT  
HOLD  
HOME  
HORN  
HOT

It starts easy day  
the possible greatness  
the chance to feel  
someone close by  
the chance to help  
and the endless  
slide to count  
alone  
the measures of oblivion  
neatly recorded.  
Your move

I  
ICE  
ILL  
IMAGE  
IN  
INFORMATION  
IRON

Levels of aggregation  
and life exists  
in the storm between  
the light to stone  
and life slows the process  
and then records it  
and life stalls the process  
and then becomes it  
and life releases the process  
and then reduces it  
our order creates  
the next division  
waiting to name  
the parts in their time  
hovering around  
in moments like silk  
the poetry of being  
amidst the market  
and wondering out  
so completely contained

K  
KEEL  
KEEP  
KEY  
KICK  
KIND  
KNOCK  
KNOW

Above the line is possible  
below the stuff to get through  
lift move trying to arrange  
that every story steers  
events that teach about their  
purpose  
your vision some luck  
a greater pattern  
producing virtue vice  
or at least inevitability  
what we want to retrieve  
in our deepest felt wish  
is all the melted moments  
when thinking sat still

L  
LAMP  
LAND  
LANGUAGE  
LARGE  
LAST  
LATE  
LAW  
LAY  
LEAD  
LEAF  
LEAVE  
LESS  
LET  
LETTER  
LEVEL  
LIBERTY  
LIE  
LIFE  
LIGHT  
LIKE  
LINE  
LOGIC  
LONG  
LOOK  
LOSE  
LOVE  
LOW

As we move, so do others  
we talk, and others turn pages  
fluid as air  
surprising like honey  
pretending to stop

I have seen  
the imprint of my hand  
deep on the grass  
and later seen the birds  
looking past its monumentality  
for worms  
each effort to make  
where I have been impenetrable  
fills the lab  
with ridiculous results

Memory, the story teller  
fills the evening  
with nothing like myths  
there for the taking  
assembled and wrapped  
lenses so large  
all of us must lift them  
if we ever hope  
to move on



M  
MACHINE  
MAD  
MAIN  
MAKE  
MAN  
MANY  
MARK  
MASS  
MASTER  
MATCH  
MATTER  
MAY  
MEAN  
MEASURE  
MEET  
MIND  
MINE  
MISS  
MORE  
MORNING  
MOST  
MOTION  
MOUNTAIN  
MOVE  
MUST

Make way  
move  
grow  
disappear  
the pleasure surrounding  
surmounting  
surprising  
obliterates all the need  
for reward.

N  
NAKED  
NAME  
NATIVE  
NATURAL  
NATURE  
NEAR  
NEED  
NEGATIVE  
NERVE  
NET  
NEVER  
NEW  
NEWS  
NIGHT  
NO  
NONE  
NOTHING  
NOW  
NUMBER

Enter the microscopic  
everything else disappears  
you in a landscape  
geometry and meaning  
require invention  
new shadows  
false motions  
odd intentions  
gathering shifting  
pressing for clues

And then the scent  
of where your body lies  
and perhaps of some  
yet smaller dimension  
and here in this explosion  
burst the fullest stark sense  
of what they were meaning  
when they mentioned  
the word life

O  
OBJECT  
OF  
OFF  
OLD  
ON  
ONE  
OPEN  
OR  
ORDER  
OTHER  
OUT  
OVER

We understand everything  
a bright light passing  
on a dark night  
loud noises  
distant shouts  
we need our reasons  
it is part of order  
like an old superintendent  
sweeping our street  
in the quest  
of our own perfection  
the weakest amongst us  
have stolen the show  
stop it, resume reaching  
face forward  
repeat after me

P

PAIN

PAIR

PALM

PAPER

PART

PASS

PATTERN

PEACE

PEAK

PEN

PEOPLE

PERFECT

PERIOD

PHASE

PHOTO

PICTURE

PIECE

PLACE

PLAY

PLAIN

PLANT

POINT

POWER

PRESENT

PRESS

PRINT

PROCESS

PROOF

PULL

PULSE

PURE

PUT

De Rerum Natura

how long it stays in pattern

its dimensions

in comparison to the

next larger aggregate level

in comparison to

objects within its boundary

its uniformity and repetition

its boundary compared to its

context

how it is observed and with what

tools

through what ideas is it thought  
about

Q  
QUALITY  
QUANTUM  
QUARTER  
QUICK

If

the beaches cleared  
each part defined  
broken leaves recorded  
dust recalled  
nothing out of place  
and nothing in its moment

Then

could all the lessons  
of the earth be learned  
and after would we gather  
like a forest, wind picking up  
swaying together  
watching changes, growing

Or

is the purpose  
its disruption  
sole custodian  
of the mysteries  
headed for iron

R  
RADIO  
RAIN  
RAISE  
RAY  
REACH  
READ  
READY  
REAL  
RECORD  
REGARD  
REMOVE  
RESERVE  
REFLECT  
REST  
RETURN  
RIDE  
RIGHT  
RIVER  
ROAD  
ROCK  
ROCKET  
ROLL  
ROOM  
ROSE  
ROUND  
RUN  
RUSH

"Every being  
in conceiving of itself  
conceives of itself  
as necessarily other  
than it is" - segalen -

I am different, in control  
you are seeing me  
as you see me  
who is right?

Rewind not the issue  
start again  
how thrilling your eyes  
my perception  
your humor  
that pine tree  
the eyes, rose...

S  
SAFE  
SAME  
SAVE  
SAY  
SEA  
SEARCH  
SEASON  
SECRET  
SEE  
SEEM  
SELF  
SENSE  
SERVE  
SET  
SHADE  
SHADOW  
SHARE  
SHOW  
SIDE  
SIGHT  
SIGN  
SKIN  
SLEEP  
SMART  
SMOKE

like Marianne  
we reach the present  
from incredible distances  
each hoping  
to reflect well  
Our journey  
through words  
and feelings and  
being  
down and upstairs  
leaves and returns  
cannot be tracked  
as clear as  
light years  
but it is a response

Yelling  
to the traffic  
"since then"  
and ever since  
the echo has been  
building unhooked  
and trying  
composing the response

Conversations are monuments  
cries are transitions  
placed and comforted  
but the sounds are still stirring

Making a difference  
is making no sense

SO  
SOUND  
SPACE  
SPEAK  
SPIRIT  
STAGE  
STAND  
SPOT  
SPRING  
STANDARD  
STAR  
STAY  
STILL  
STONE  
STOP  
STORM  
STORY  
STRENGTH  
STRING  
STUFF  
SUBJECT  
SUCH  
SUN  
SURE  
SWEET

Like starlight  
we reach the present  
from incredible distances  
each hoping  
to reflect well  
Our journey  
through words  
and feelings and  
neurons  
dinner and icestorms  
flowers and shame  
cannot be tracked  
as cleanly as  
lightyears  
but the consequences  
fall more steady  
than black

That we reach at all  
to this fine moment  
a tribute to physics  
poetry and pain  
a glance across  
to another's eye  
hopefully starting  
a glint with in sight  
wish I may  
wish I might  
get this wish  
I wish tonight



T  
TAKE  
TEAR  
TELL  
TENDER  
TERM  
THAT  
THE  
THING  
THINK  
THOUGHT  
THROUGH  
TIME  
TO  
TONE  
TOUCH  
TRACE  
TRACK  
TRADE  
TREE  
TURN  
TYPE

Mind your head

U  
UNDER  
UNION  
UNIVERSAL  
UNTO  
UP  
UPON  
USE  
USED  
UTTER

We had the courage to do  
anything

trust me  
I will never let you down  
and he never did

You thought you were  
irreplaceable  
but you know  
no one is

In the midst  
of utter confusion  
you saw how few  
people you can talk to

I go to sleep  
every night  
easy, no worry

V  
VEIL  
VENUS  
VERGE  
VERSE  
VERY  
VICE  
VIEW  
VIRTUE  
VISION  
VISIT  
VOICE  
VOID  
VOW  
VOYAGE

Not in moments  
not unwound  
not releasing  
not foretold  
not unanswered  
not retrieved  
not surpassing  
not contrived  
not unravelling  
not unsure  
not beholden  
not timid or  
not beginning and  
not for sanctity  
not for ritual  
not in sight now  
only once and always continuing  
the steep steady pleasure  
guaranteed to yes

W  
WAIT  
WALK  
WALL  
WANE  
WANT  
WARM  
WARN  
WASH  
WASTE  
WATCH  
WATER  
WAVE  
WAY  
WEAK  
WEAR  
WEATHER  
WEED  
WEIGH  
WELL  
WET  
WHAT  
WHEEL  
WHICH  
WHILE  
WHO  
WHOLE  
WIDE  
WILD

A point depicts an object  
a line a division  
a field depicts a space  
but remember our place  
in the midst of the soup  
it is not that mind  
is the center of the universe  
but only that mind  
is the experience  
never separated

WILL  
WIND  
WINDOW  
WING  
WISE  
WISH  
WIT  
WITH  
WITHIN  
WITHOUT  
WOMAN  
WONDER  
WORD  
WORK  
WORLD  
WORSE  
WORTH  
WRING  
WRITE  
WRONG

Levels of aggregation of  
observation  
depict the memory  
of experiencing ourselves  
in the midst of the physical  
and not at its edge  
our eyes blind us  
to the world we cannot see.

A sphere depicts a boundary  
what is in sustained pattern  
is not outside of it

objects are sustaining patterns  
in time

field molecules roses are simply  
larger sustaining patterns

the coherence of living things  
is the complexity of pattern  
thought/thinking being the rest

self reflexive, the highest form  
of  
complexity.

how long something remains in  
patterns  
determines its complexity.

the measure of it  
is the extension from the center  
during which the pattern  
is continuously balanced  
its determinant is frequency,  
oscillation rate vibration rate  
magnetic, gravitational  
weak and  
strong  
based on sensing  
we learn now to project

Y  
YARD  
YEAR  
YET  
YIELD  
YOKE  
YOU

Relativity  
no preferred observer  
speed of mind  
equals level of aggregation  
actual distance of thoughts  
in the brain  
determines relationship  
not only metaphysical to physical  
through models of observational  
reality  
number of associations,  
patterns, analogies  
levels of relationships are known.  
I think fully  
therefore you are

Z  
ZERO  
ZONE

Who, looking deeply  
becomes the eyes I behold  
who stares straight  
in close darkness who  
accepts the history and  
glossary  
of what there is to know  
and that happens

The records are endless  
but flawed and elusive  
uneasily edited  
relentlessly proud  
standing in doorways  
smoking for pleasure  
how can we get from them  
a slant on the truth

And then it comes  
like a cool current  
nothing is finished  
nothing complete  
knocked back  
onto the sound track  
the songs breaking out  
have only true answers



TIDAL GESTURES

Fragments  
form parts  
become words  
that catch  
in distance  
resolve  
thoughts  
into thinking

These words  
will fall  
apart  
to be sure  
in light of  
because of  
what is  
to become

How far  
to water  
poetry lies  
comes true  
mind  
only between  
only now

We return  
from angle  
to center  
substance  
changes  
continued parts  
reaching if  
almost with  
dreams built on  
for breaks inside  
skin of time

Nothing can be  
made in pieces  
once as in then  
by near gazing  
through along  
continued parts  
reaching if to  
almost with of  
dreams held on  
for breaks inside  
skin of time

As words  
become  
place between  
eyes in light  
straining  
to resemble  
wishes  
moments  
next to nothing  
release  
images apart

