

**E.M. Schorb**

**Lunacy**

I  
can't  
wait for  
two more  
weeks if I  
take it now  
if I ate it now  
I'd have got only  
the half of it but  
half is better than  
nothing & I need my  
fix of the moon. I  
open the window &  
reach for the moon-  
pill & pull it down  
& push it in & chew  
the moist cheese of  
it the green cheese  
of it & begin to  
feel the effect  
of the dog's moon  
the wolf's moon  
& chew & swallow  
& swallow &  
chew grinding  
& swallow  
& finally  
*HOWL*  
!

## **This Man Insisting Upon Living**

How can I leave you with only one?  
If I give you nothing but that which I give,  
what will protect you? Is this, do you think,  
only a rationalization, because I want to live?  
Is my heart as black as this typing ink?  
But I cannot leave you with only one!

No, no, no! Nor can I leave you  
with only these, stamped and stamped, only these  
two:  
nor could I leave you with more if I had any more;  
no, not with three, if it were that three  
were here for me to leave, or  
even if I were lucky and had . . .  
but I cannot leave you with only two.

Nor could I dream of  
leaving you with only these three.  
How would you survive;  
how could you ever get along?  
I must leave you with at least four.  
Do you think that four will be enough?

No, I don't either; I'm sure you'll need more:  
five at the very least, yes, at least five.  
Oh, I am going to worry, worry so!  
I had better re-think this.  
Yes, I had better think more about this,  
for how could I live with myself

if you didn't have enough to get by on?  
Yes, it had better be six, or seven, ten perhaps,  
and if I stay until tomorrow, I can, if I try,  
make it twenty or thirty, a thousand- ~ yes!  
It must be a million: I must keep up my strength:  
perhaps I had better not go: I'm so busy.

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E.M. Schorb's poetry has appeared in *5 AM*, *Rattle*, *The Sewanee Review*, *The Chariton Review*, and many other publications. His books *Time and Fevers* and *Murderer's Day* have received several awards.