



**Paul Murphy**

**Practical Hay**

Mr Acerbic wears a jagged smile.  
Nurse Wetboard is sitting on his face.  
Monkey-faced men leer in at the portico.  
I am on the baby Grand. Attack  
Of the strang/lers. We die  
In misty, rosy dreams.  
We die as we wanted to live:  
Cowardly, elemental tinpackers!

Some days later I am still  
Underneath the baby Grand.  
Mr McGonad is sipping his pint  
Of corduroy. Mr Slipgirdle has  
A firm. Nurse Rendition  
Is throttling him with a loose.  
Alibi is hammering in the windmill.  
The electric is all blown away.

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Paul Murphy is "writing an epic poem using the heteronym Kenji Okanawi, a survivor of Nagasaki, who claimed three pensions, having cycled from Nagasaki to Hiroshima and back again, being blasted three times."