

Creative Works

FOURTEEN CRITICAL QUESTIONS

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Abstract

A poem composed of a series of questions.

Keywords: poetry, disability

FOURTEEN CRITICAL QUESTIONS

(In No Particular Order)

Ask her.

Ask her if smoke stings?

Ask her if the flames changed colour as they ate through the seven layers of her skin?

Ask her if she knows when the smell started?

Ask her if she knows at what point burning skin stops feeling anything and just blackens?

Ask her if she knows the price of any of the following:

- . half a litre of 98 octane
- . a box of Lion matches
- . an old car tyre
- . ten bricks, broken into halves?

Ask her if she really can fly?

Ask her what happened to her legs, and if that is why she can fly?

Ask her if the reason she has no husband is because of what happened to her legs when she was born?

Ask her if she knows what happened to that little boy, the one from over there, behind that clump of trees?


Ask her if she knows the price of any of the following:

- . half a litre of 98 octane
- . a box of Lion matches
- . an old car tyre
- . ten bricks, broken into halves?

Ask her if it is true that she can understand what the trees are saying?

Ask her if she ever touched the bottom of the deep lake?

Ask her if she knows whether heads can grow back
like lizards' tails?
Ask her if she knows how long it takes for bone to break down into dirt?
Ask her.
Go on.

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