

Time Will Show

SAMPLER

ALSO BY PAM REHM

POETRY

The Larger Nature (Chicago: Flood Editions, 2011)

Small Works (Chicago: Flood Editions, 2005)

Gone to Earth (Chicago: Flood Editions, 2001)

To Give It Up (Los Angeles: Sun & Moon, 1995)

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Pam Rehm

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The heart is forever inexperienced.
Henry David Thoreau

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A Matter of Days

There is an ache
in each of us

A remoteness

An unsettled absoluteness
that embraces no variant

In the end, it figures closely
to the self's semblance

Part caution
Part allure

It is distinctly
our vigilant core

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Time Will Show

The contents of need
balance between
yesterday and no longer

In consciousness, we worry
In spirit, we are safe

In the obscure
corners
of living

wonder warbles
in a sturdy nest

Away from home,
you keep its influence

piece out the comfort
then turn off the light

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All or Nothing

for Michael Gizzi

All or nothing

A simple premise
for the complexity
of existence

It exhorts the
present's pull

duels with
the hour's mind,
the day's body

Every day, the same
exchanging

sleep for waking

Patterns are
a natural phenomenon

Something you memorize
can be forgotten

You break your heart
over a sentence

Because daydreams can't heal
talking

What's the big deal?

Silence holds its own
head up

Without the heavy flesh

forgiveness is
that things grow

is why we are here
still

The difference between
a shadow and a body

is merely the immortality
of habits

It is interesting to note
extremes

Winter's slow give-over
to green

encompasses sidewalk plots
and trees

The sun burns, its
heat still out of reach

I walk as compensation
for my growing devotion
to fate

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Children at play
in the street

Your "About Face"
over and over

until the day
grows late

The weight of the air
changes

The voice fades

A thunderstorm begins

Everything is between
what causes

or what follows

interference

Guided by the temporary
strategies of adaptation

my mind

finds openings
at dawn

The Shadow of a Mountain

Upstream, the current is shallow

Deftly turning them over,
I have observed
rock bottoms
like flowers

The flowing water carries
a leaf on its surface

Face the wind
let it wind through your shirtsleeves

Pine trees hold wings
until they rise and disappear

from your enchantment
Dragonfly jaws work sideways

side by side in a row
The way of engagement is slow

Snow sometimes hides it
in a boy's pockets or

a girl's kite
rising with the sun

So much splendor stuns
the grounds of my acquaintance

with rock bottom

A rocky road through
a picture-perfect day

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