

LISTING

SEF

I have not made lists, which include shopping lists, lists of thoughts to remember, to do lists, not to do lists, lists of what one can do except doing, lists of years, word lists, lists of metaphors I have feared and their effects, lists of lost voices, voices heard on the radio at night, voices in telephones, lists of connections, I have not tried to list rhythms one hears in the passages of the everyday, lists of echoes and ways they echo each other, things that are echoes of each other, songs about echo, symptom lists, lists within lists, lists without lists, list poems, unlisted lists, lists of hours and qualities of light, moon phases lists, tide ups and downs, lists of rivers, lists of pieces of glass found by rivers, lists of objects left near rivers, sea lists, lists of fogs, lists of animals drowned in fog, part lists, whole lists, lists of ingredients unused, lists of beginnings, end lists, lists floating down like leaves, lists between notebook pages, torn scraps of paper that fell on the floor and were never picked up, lists of pauses, lists of lists yet to be written.

A. Today

1. I went to the dentist (again)
 - a) It had been postponed
 - b) because of a cold
2. My mouth is both
 - a) still slightly numb
 - b) and in pain
3. I had soup for lunch
 - a) chicken
 - b) and mushroom

B. Today

1. I thought about green instead of working
2. Green arrived in new ink bottles
 - a) mossy green
 - b) emerald green
 - c) lotus green
3. I let a drop of ink fall on a page
4. It grew into
 - a) a map
 - b) a field
 - c) a forest
5. I wanted to dissolve in green
6. An artist has made a webpage listing all shades of green

C. Today

1. I looked at blue
 1. When I met my therapist they asked me what I liked to do
 1. I said I liked looking at beautiful things
 1. They asked what stopped me from looking at beautiful things
 1. At that moment I was looking at light falling on a wall of the building across the courtyard
 1. Afterwards I sat down in a small park nearby and listened to birds
 1. Later that day I took a night train and saw a beautiful sunset

D. Today

1. Someone was smoking outside my window and it felt once again like an absence of belonging
 - § What does belonging have to do with sensory discomfort?
 - § What does belonging have to do with exhaustion?
 - § What does belonging have to do with time?
 - § What does belonging have to do with pain?
 - § What does belonging have to do with rain?
 - § What does belonging have to do with acceptance?
 - § What does belonging have to do with silence?

E. How was your day?

- a) is a question that can be broken down into elements
 - i) how (an expression of quality)
 - ii) was (indicates tense, asking about the past)
 - iii) your (reference to your person)
 - iv) day (time period, exact parameters vary)
- b) Most people process sentences as units of information, not words
- c) I learned this in a talk about communication

F. Listingⁱ

1. Where does a list begin
2. When does a list end
3. What is a list for
4. Who reads lists
5. The problem with lists is they never correspond to reality. You can write a shopping list, but in the shop the items are never in the same order as on the list. So you have to keep going back and forth, checking the list, and find a way of crossing them off, and make sure nothing was missed. It's too much trouble. By the time you've looked at the list, you have forgotten where you are in the world, and when you are in the world, who thinks about lists.
6. On the other hand, we can use lists to categorise abstract thoughts that have nothing to do with each other. Lists are most useful when they don't make sense. In this way, poetry can be created.
7. The expansion of lists into multiple dimensions. It has been suggested that a grid is a two-dimensional list, and a pile is a three-dimensional one. We should make a list of dimensions and their corresponding list-properties.
8. There are also series and collections.
9. According to etymologies, the word list originally meant a narrow strip of paper or cloth, border, hem, edge. A researcher notes the similarity of form between strips of cloth and lists.
10. Obscurity and transparency in lists. A list interprets a list. A list of lists of lists has been compiled. It includes itself.
11. Lists are inspiring. Especially fragments of found lists without context. How one finds lists.
12. There is a book about dust composed of lists.
13. Perhaps lists are a way to collect fragments. They can be arranged and re-arranged, but never made whole.

ⁱ (i) What makes a list a list
(ii) Are numbers essential
(iii) What about line breaks
(iv) Should philosophies of lists take the form of a list
(v) Before we write a list do we have to define it