

*A Novel Idea (My Wit Will Be The End Of me)*

Poetry is like masturbation  
it's quick and it's painless  
in and out  
and you can go to sleep

but a novel  
now that's like  
having sex with the woman you love  
long and beautiful  
and unforgiving

it used to be so painful  
in the beginning,  
agonizing, in fact  
trying to come up with a way to start,  
not even a beginning,  
but an opening sentence;  
just the first word

*The something...*

You would need one thousand  
fingers and toes  
to count all the books  
that began with *The something...*

the first sentence  
could make or break  
a book  
like an introduction to a woman  
you want to sleep with

but once I found the flow  
I was in love  
and it was a brand new love

I am still a young man  
and I have completed two manuscripts  
the first being a total hunk of garbage  
and the second  
perhaps a decent

and memorable idea  
that I poured my heart and soul into  
but will probably  
never see the light of day.

I became more apart of the story in my novel  
than I ever could in poetry  
because you have a limited amount of space  
to convey what you want said  
in a poem

it is like going for a walk  
in a jail cell-  
it is only a moment  
until you ram face first  
into the bars

in a novel  
it forces you to go to bed  
with each of the characters,  
find out their dirty secrets  
and then write about them  
as if you weren't  
the one who had made them up  
to begin with

it's cannibalistic in a way  
for I'm always eating and regurgitating  
my mind in new and different ways

everything I do  
similar to one another  
but never quite the same

and people ask me if I want children  
and I tell them I already have some

they're thin  
and white  
and I can keep  
them in a filing cabinet.