

*Dreams that Linger Long After Morning*

I don't sleep well  
because by the time  
I finally get to bed  
my head  
is still running  
on the thoughts  
of the  
day

and when  
I close my eyes  
all the things  
I've seen  
and don't  
want to see anymore  
are there

and my dreams  
don't begin  
but always are  
and when I finally  
fall asleep  
I enter  
my second life  
my much better  
and my much worse  
life

Last night  
I dreamt  
I was in a dead strip club  
that quickly became my kitchen  
and I was sitting there with a dancer  
and decided to give her my telephone number

I began to try  
writing it down  
but each time it was either too sloppy to make out  
or I'd put a wrong number

I tired

10 and 15 times  
to write it  
filling an entire  
sheet of paper  
and finally  
getting it right

then  
I noticed  
a woman in front  
of me

her back  
looked so familiar

I knew who it was right away-  
it was my greatest love

she was present  
in most of my  
dreams

but now she  
had blue hair

I'm not sure  
if her hair was blue  
or just soaked  
in the club's light

but she was angry with me  
for giving my phone number  
to another woman

and she started yelling and shouting

I took her by the waist  
and carried her outside,  
she fought to get away from me  
but I held her close and said  
“Don't you know how much I love you?”  
and she smiled  
and we kissed

then I woke up  
in the gutter  
of my driveway

that's when things  
began to get confusing

for I was still dreaming  
but in my dream  
I had had a dream  
and in the dream I had awoken into  
I found the stripper  
and told her the story

she replied  
"I had a strange dream too.  
I looked at you and had blood on my hand."

and then  
I really woke up...

What did all that mean?  
I thought to myself

being unable to write my phone number?  
the blood on the hand?

now  
the thoughts plague my mind  
my stomach is made uneasy  
because of my  
unsettling dreams

and they linger  
like a bad breeze