

The Dead Dream of an (soon-to-be) Old Man

I've always been
fascinated by tap dancing

the way
it seems
like a dance
that everyone
can do

it has a sloppy
rhythm to it
and the clean
crisp sounds
of the metal soles (*souls*) [it takes a metal soul]
clanking against
the ground
are strangely
pleasing
to the ear

I can listen
to it all day

click clack click

HA! I can't get
enough of it

I've kept
this a secret
for many
years
without
knowing
why

same
as when I
was a child
drawing pictures
of nude ladies

what guilt
I felt
for drawing
them

as if I had
committed
a crime

I didn't know
that many
men
had made
a living
and were
considered
genius
for
drawing
pictures
of
nude
ladies

maybe
in another
time
in another
life

if the
writing
monster
hadn't
grabbed me
first

I could
have been an
artist
who spends
all his time

painting portraits
of nude women

or a tap dancer