

# Mind's autumn

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My mind is a morass. Muddled are the  
Myriad faces of my past, like fallen  
Leaves in the autumn grass, faded together.

I'm asked the same few questions now, the same strange  
People gathered round, as if I could recall  
Somehow, the answers. What is this place? Why  
Can't they see, these endless fields of memory  
Are clearer more for them than me? I do  
Not know. What is the year? Reckon so – it's  
Nineteen something long ago, my life in  
Full *eternal* glow – still vivid. Briefly,  
Then I'm back at home, familiar  
Hallways through which I roam, they comfort me.  
My name you say? Well, that I know, changed only  
Once some years ago, stated proudly, let  
It show that I am living. They ask me  
No more questions now. My tired eyes, they  
Rove around scanning faces in the crowd  
I do not know them. Friends or family?  
I cannot say, like nameless faces in  
Store bought frames, always smiling...

Then back again I wander round my mind's  
Soft hollows through which I found these  
Memories fallen upon the ground  
Like scattered leaves around me.

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Listen to Dr. Southerland  
read this poem.

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