

Transcortical Sensory Aphasia Sonnet

What Happens When Your Words Are Not Your Own?

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A ruddy clot, thick, viscous as fresh mud
gets lodged within brain vessel. Language lobe,
its thirst not slaked, vampiric quest for blood,
succumbs, and like the emperor disrobed,

a naked stream of consciousness pours out.
To comprehend: impaired; intact is just
repeating. Lonely Echo parrots shouts
and whispers in a narcissistic quest

to claim what's left of her expression, half-
life lived in mimicked bursts of phrases,
forme fruste of language, thwarted, sometimes graphic
words, obscenities can take the place

of speech. When all expression is but loaned,
what happens when your words are not your own?

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