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## Three Poems

*by Rob Plath*

### How to Communicate w/the Dead

tip the watering can  
over the hydrangea

observe blackbirds dipping  
their beaks into earth

follow the brushstrokes  
of spring clouds

clip fresh mint leaves  
& brew tea

sit still, wordless

listen to the blood  
ticking in yr wrists

### Clouds of Mercy

i sat all day w/the black beetles of madness climbing what's left of  
my  
backbone

i sat all day w/my frayed, swiss cheese self-esteem, fingering the  
holes

i sat all day w/my suicide snickering from my cuticles & whispering  
grab  
the big kitchen knife, boy

i sat all day w/my demons wagging their forked tongues like  
terrible,  
drooling pendulums, hissing drink up, motherfucker

i sat all day w/my lobotomized boyhood, bemoaning the  
unspliceable wires

i sat all day w/the skeleton of god, running a cup back & forth over  
the  
ribcage, begging for just one of my unanswered prayers

until i went to the window & gazed at the immaculate clouds  
backlit by  
the spring moon, bright bouquets of benevolence

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Editor's Note

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## my friend Moose

i pull into the driveway  
& open the door  
& the landlord's big black dog  
happily sticks his head in the car  
he then leads me up to the gate  
w/not just his tag wagging  
but his entire backside  
i scratch his ears & he leans into me  
at a 45 degree angle w/all his weight  
there are so many creatures  
that deserve love in this world  
humans the least of them

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**Rob Plath** has been published all over the place. His most noted collection of poetry is *A Bellyful of Anarchy* (Epic Rites Press 2009). You can find out more about his art, photography and writing at [www.robplath.com](http://www.robplath.com) Rob lives in New York with his cat and tries his best to stay out of trouble.

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