

Thin Hardcover Artbook

Vice Versa | vol 2



David Estes

Observation is a great joy. To write one's observations,
record such wonderings, the greatest joy of all.

Elizabeth Bishop

The photograph was wedged safely in an old college textbook shelved in the bedroom of her childhood home; we had thought it lost forever. We didn't take so many photos back then just enough for reminders of our wheres and whens. We were essentially our own audience.

The plan that summer was to visit London, Paris, Montpellier, Nice and then I would return home to Ithaca while Kate continued on to study for a semester in Florence.

In Paris we stayed near the Luxembourg Gardens at a small hotel that felt authentic. In the early morning we awakened to a soft double-tap on our door signaling the delivery of fresh bread and coffee.





The Pool

I write poems on my phone during long walks
through town
or along narrow paths in the woods
near a creek
I smile when I look up
seeing all the others writing their poetry
yesterday on the phone
he told me
you swim a mile twice a week
and that it has made you stronger
he also said
the pool is a good place to cry.





Farm Life

The exuberance of a gray catbird at sunrise;
two robins fend off a blue jay
while trying to feed their young
nesting under the eave;

and the lingering chill of night
will soon cool our coffees,
too quickly.

He sits on the porch with his heavy book

down near the pond;
how beautiful this all is...

He has suffered only minor damages.

Maybe more.

Yes, more.

And then, that slow unzip
of the tent, unnoticed me wandering
to a tree.



Barefoot Mary

Our poor kids never taken to
Disney
but instead
to another chapel
just a little further up
and around that corner
in Rome;

where the Caravaggio hangs
dimly-lit,
unless
you have a coin.



David Estes received his BA in History from Cornell University and MFA in Sculpture from California College of the Arts. He has recently become interested in poetry and how it relates to making images; and vice versa.

Ithaca NY

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