

# Two Sonnets

by [Jeffrey Burghauer](#) (January 2020)



*Iriinaland Over the Balkans*, Friedensreich Hundertwasser, 1971

## Hamlet

And the adolescent rested with his date  
On a boulder in the bosom of the dark,  
Sylvan valley: she, attempting to create  
A romantic mood, and he, sapric as peat,  
Sobbing, hyperventilating over stark-

Seeming sounds: stark since engendered by a thing  
As substantial as a heaving patriarch,  
But attentive, full of cautious reckoning.

Or observe that toddlers know that every pitch  
Of emotion has a music of its own,  
Though they suffer difficulty telling which  
Words may be those fitting to a given tone.

Hamlet didn't gather the entire point:  
It isn't just the *time* that's out of joint.



626 *The Way to You*, Friedensreich Hundertwasser, 1966

Best Friend

*for UDA*

Smoking, windows opened, in your mother's plum-  
Colored Volvo, singing, and, at giddy rate,  
Bending through the dampened forest sodium-  
Vapor lanterns manage to domesticate.



What an odd phenomenon is the Best Friend

As beheld from full adulthood's diocese.

Yes, I must still love you: while I comprehend

Retrospect's unhealthy constitution, these

Recollections give me feelings that become

Like those sweet, oblique-to-thought, unsure-to-sense

Feelings upon finding you've translated some

Foreign lullaby with eerie competence.

Friend, the sweetest grade of memory belongs

Not to perfect poems, but to trashy songs.

«[Previous Article](#) [Table of Contents](#) [Next Article](#)»

---

Jeffrey Burghauser is a teacher in Columbus, OH. He was educated at SUNY-Buffalo and the University of Leeds. He currently studies the five-string banjo with a focus on pre-WWII picking styles. A former artist-in-residence at the Arad Arts Project (Israel), his poems have appeared (or are forthcoming) in *Appalachian Journal*, *Fearsome Critters*, *Iceview*, *Lehrhaus*, and *New English Review*. Jeffrey's book-length collection, [Real Poems](#), is available on Amazon and his website is [www.jeffreyburghauser.com](http://www.jeffreyburghauser.com).

Follow NER on Twitter [@NERIconoclast](https://twitter.com/NERIconoclast)