

***EXCERPTS FROM A CONVERSATION***

**By Louis Kasatkin**

Who are you again?

Oh, that's right!

yes, I remember now;

who, me?

yeah, yeah..

erm, no, you're thinking about someone else,

no, he was there round about the same time,

yeah, that's right,

and you?

cancer of the bowel? wow!

no, I.. I'm sorry to hear that?

Me? oh coming up to 30 years..

Department of Work and Pensions, Benefits,

erm, well no ,not particularly

I can't remember ever sanctioning anyone suffering from cancer;

Tens of thousands? really?

that's just shocking!

Yeah, I am a Union member..

Oh, I don't know..

anyhow, nice catching up with you..

see you around again sometime?

***SALVADOR DALI (ON HEARING OF HIS DEATH)***

The crying harlequin's  
sculpted tears  
empty the ornate fountains,  
where flames blind the prophets  
who only arise once crowds  
give cheer to the  
elevation of mountains  
at angles seen  
only at sunrise  
when Alice dreams  
of empty fountains  
sculpted  
by tears

## **Staring Contest**

See the empty pages  
staring,  
staring back at you  
staring as you stare  
at them:  
All those pages,  
empty, void and  
blank  
waiting for a stroke  
of your pen  
the cut and thrust  
of some intellect and  
a little wit;  
Scratches on the surface  
of the Sun,  
etchings on the landscape  
of the Moon;  
and still you stare at them  
whilst they're staring back  
at you,  
and you alone  
hold the pen.

### **Bio**

**Louis** is editorial administrator at [www.DestinyPoets.co.uk](http://www.DestinyPoets.co.uk) and founder of Destiny Poets and in his spare time is a civic, community, political activist, blogger and general nuisance to the status quo!