

*MAPS AND OTHER POEMS*

By Scott Thomas Outlar

Feed me music from the cut of your tongue  
the black of your lungs  
I need notes for salvation  
I need noise like a plague

Spin your soft spells on my skin  
live wire spine  
I need a song for the darkness  
I need a dance when the hour grows tired

*NARROW*

Life offers but two options  
on its menu

You can lament  
over what has been lost  
in the past  
for all your days  
& remain  
empty  
(half full at best)  
& forever starving

or you can forge your way

toward the future  
& forage for a feast  
that will fatten you  
with peace & happiness

It's all ice cream & oranges

& the fine line between

***GULP/CHOKE/SIGH/BREATHE/RELEASE***

Open window  
and see-through eyes

My truth  
is a book  
I only just  
learned how  
to write

As long as I am breathing  
I will burn  
in high fever

Sand and sugar  
claimed my spirit  
and swallowed

**Bio**

Scott Thomas Outlar hosts the site [17Numa.com](http://17Numa.com) where links to his published poetry, fiction, essays, interviews, reviews, live events, radio podcasts, and books can be found. His work has been nominated for the Pushcart Prize and Best of the Net. His most recent book, *Of Sand and Sugar*, was released in 2019 through Cyberwit.

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