

POEM OF THE WEEK

IS THIS IT?

One Can Almost hear the contempt dripping
From every word: only three words, pregnant with
Meaning. Rush not to judgment! Hold your horses
“Is this it?” can also be said in a sense of wonder

Of the beauty of the cosmos. To say it's context-bound
Is axiomatic. It is a given from which one proceeds
Three words: to either condemn or praise to choose
The stairway to heaven or the road to hell

Please wait, so much drama; the two allusions
Are to song titles that had some infamy or love
The question is, “Is this it?” referring to a fluid
Situation or something established.

It presupposes a point of view, or does it?
A comment, “Is this it?” can equate to
“Is this or these our challenge(s)?”
This is an optimist's point of view

Three words. Lie to play, rearrange? Good idea. Let's!
“Is this it?” “This is it?” “It is this?” “it this is?”
They all depend on “it”. Define “it”, the end of the problem
Gone are scorching condemnations. The limpid excuses

People of my age might remember Peggy Lee
Singing in 1969, “Is that all there is?” a song from
Her album of the same name. “Is that all there is?”
Could easily be misconstrued and be recast in the mould

Of our innocent question, “Is this it?” How well do you remember
the lyrics to that song? To a string of horrors, events in her life
The woman sings the chorus.

“Is that all there is
Is that all there is
If that's all there is, my friends
Then let's keep dancing
Let's break out the booze and have a ball
If that's all there is”

Is “Life” the ultimate disappointment? Did no one inform her
She had choices and choices; every day is new and challenging
With opportunities waiting? She might have finished at the
fourth line, “Then, let's keep dancing”. No one did. She didn't.

So, how the question is asked is immaterial.
Its importance lies in how they're framed.
The stairway to heaven or the road to hell?

Do you remember them?
Yes? No? I could hum them

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