THE MALINGERER GOES TO THE MOVIES,

(A DIS-ABILITY COMING-OUT POEM.
FOR COLIN KEMPNER. AND JUDITH WRIGHT)

1.
You're sitting there,
and it's getting harder to breathe.
It feels as if a little man, like a gnome,
has crept up the back of your seat,
and dropped a net into your head,
over your brain...

You glance at the woman sitting next to you,
and she isn't there...
You look at the screen, and it seems unreal,
like a bad film...

Are you in a theater at all?
Are you in a room filled with water?
ARE THERE ANY PEOPLE HERE!?

2.
Show's over, you're out in the parking lot,
wondering how to get home...

SCOTT NORMAN ROSENTHAL

"Born somewhere on the "autism" spectrum. Bizarre, severe physiological problems. Not allowed to finish high school.Studied poetical composition at college level. By invitation of Prof. Stephen Dunn. Stockton State College, Pomona, N.J.. Fall Semester, 1977. Stephen subsequently awarded Pulitzer In Poetry, for Year 2000. Marginal, miserable life. Composes poetry and has done still photography for 55 years. Losing life due to inadequate housing arrangements. Relieved and elated to be here.

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