

## Authenticity

by dee Sunday, May 4 2014, 11:23am

international / poetry / post

so adept at accommodating/  
becoming others  
in order to facilitate  
an easy exchange  
i wonder at times  
whether or not this proficiency  
carries too high a price

it's too easy a fall-back,  
this ability usually wins out  
in the end  
so i reach for it like a junkie  
reaches for a syringe  
rather  
than try to do it  
the hard way -  
fuck the hard way  
life's been hard enough  
wearing my heart and soul  
on each sleeve  
leading with my most  
vulnerable and sensitive  
parts  
trampled and tortured  
either by design  
or by accident  
the difference is academic  
as the pain is the same

now i close reflexively  
at the slightest probing touch  
like a sea anemone  
vulnerable in the tidal pools  
between land and sea  
the indecision of the anemone  
to commit to either realm  
is me

between worlds,  
inhabitant of none  
i have lost my authenticity -

catch me at low tide  
looking up from my tiny pool  
but beware, my soft red flesh  
hides a sting which kills  
in minutes

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Jungle Drum Prose/Poetry. <http://jungledrum.lingama.net/news/story-1125.html>