

## A Few

by jalal via james - Inverse Times *Sunday, Aug 26 2018, 1:10pm*

international / poetry / post

yesterday i was poor,  
one meal a day  
was an abundance

today i have gold, fine silks  
and all manner of desired  
things which i would sacrifice  
without hesitation  
for one day of the simple poverty  
i once had

ask me a question, any question  
and i would answer correctly,  
my life has been wasted acquiring the knowledge  
of men, which an illiterate shepherd boy  
puts to shame

wild finches come to my window  
to feed on the seeds i keep for my bread,  
the birds became so accustomed  
to the seeds i offered  
that soon they gladly took up  
residence in a cage

fish cannot be tamed or trained to  
perform tricks because the sea is too vast  
to measure

pearls are formed from an irritation,  
the oyster covers the irritating grain  
until a precious pearl forms

i have taunted existence for the Truth  
as long as i can remember, until it finally  
covered me in its most precious essence

i wandered the country as a boy

lost for the most part --  
as a man i sought directions  
and became profoundly lost

today i ignore road signs and advice,  
now every road i take leads me home

<https://inversetimes.hopto.org/news/story-237.html>

---

Underground Oz Poetry. <http://ozpoetry.lingama.net/news/poem-899.html>