

## Apologia Part 1

Chronically attacked and belittled by father  
Cut off and shut out by mother  
Loved and willingly lackeyed sister  
Lost first and only passionate, newfound friend to move at nine  
Love, support, acceptance, breast-milk, touch deprived  
Materially spoiled

Sought oblivion and relief in drugs and escapist literature  
Lost fertility and part of manhood to cancer, operations and chemo  
Lost grounding and part of sanity to six episodes  
of mostly drug-induced manic psychosis  
Compensated in megalomania and isolation

Chucked in disgust pinnacle accolade of worldly existence  
Classical Philosophy Professor's letter stating  
'Of all my students, only one was his equal and none his superior'

Loved and willingly lackeyed world-renowned guru  
Sat and worked with numerous lesser  
Became dilettante singer-songwriter, author  
teacher, poet, healer, voice of conscience wannabe  
Never worked assiduously enough at anything  
to become good enough at anything

Worked various jobs and grew old  
Lived out life alone  
in elegant penury  
on the dole

Works, efforts and submissions  
declined, failed, declined, failed  
declined, failed, declined, failed

Crippled personhood, aborted potential, wasted life  
but kept on healing, processing, trying, learning and growing  
and towards the end, found my one true teacher