

Disability Studies Quarterly  
Summer 2001, Volume 21, No. 3  
pages 210-211 <www.cds.hawaii.edu>  
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Ancient Time

Hard headed, jerk jawed,  
Tough toed, fierce fisted:  
The slimy smile that went astray  
And crashed the wood of tall timber  
When night and day broke apart.  
None wept at noon of day  
To see the thing fly away.  
Hands were bloody, feet were gone  
And hell is hard. Of course we know  
That we all know and none do know  
How cold is iron in thrust and force  
To shake the slime of ancient time.

David Pfeiffer, 1989

Invalid

Take your hands  
Off my chair.  
I have survived  
Thus far  
Without your  
Unrequested help  
And will continue  
To do so.  
You will not  
Invalidate me by  
Acting as if  
You know best.  
I will survive.

David Pfeiffer, 1989

Written After the Last Meeting of the  
Massachusetts Advisory Council on Disability

This is the way the Council ends,  
This is the way the Council ends,  
This is the way the Council ends,  
Not with a Bang,

But with a motion to adjourn.

David Pfeiffer, 1993