

**A]** He quoted words from the bible  
Words of the prophets, liked the psalms  
Said he'd fill my empty head  
With words of wise ones quick and dead ~  
He quoted from memory  
Words he said were Lao Tzu's  
But the Dao De Jing  
Didn't mean anything to me.....

**B]** He quoted Shakespeare and Milton  
Oscar Wilde, Richard Burton  
The other one not the actor  
As if to me it would matter~  
Said he'd memorized in French  
The Essays of Montaigne, a mensch  
Quoted Nietzsche and Adorno  
Said they were famous what do I know? ~

**A]** Then he left he went away  
My head filled up with all those quotes  
No goodbyes just disappeared  
Empty winds no post-it-notes  
I left that place a' wandering  
To find somewhere to call my own  
Find somewhere to fill a need  
Quote some wisdom plant the seed

**B]** He quoted Shakespeare and Milton  
Oscar Wilde, Dorothy Parker  
That lady had a tongue on her  
Burned some bridges seemed so bitter  
Quoted Verlaine, Eliot and Pound

Read out loud he liked the sound  
Spoke long lines of Samuel Beckett  
Not the priest, the author checked it

**A]** I met some people who read books  
I quoted words I thought they'd know  
Consternation and strange looks  
What they said brought me sorrow  
The words I'd learned were made up  
Not the words of learned souls  
My noises were nonsensical  
Common place and useless too

**A]** He quoted books he'd never read  
A book who's words no words were said  
He made it up declared out loud  
Left me with a heavy head  
I began to read, found real quotes  
Got a notebook and there I wrote  
Words that were from the wise  
Arendt, Jaspers, Goethe, Gaddis

**B]** I might quote Shakespeare and Milton  
Though once read not too likely  
All the reading that I've done  
I still can't quote to save my life  
I don't know what drove him  
To make up all those words and lies  
But now I know a little truth  
There's no quote that makes me wise.