

reaching the age  
when the awareness of the not much longer  
becomes nervous tics  
develops hysterical habits  
stares at the edge of the horizon moving closer  
extends the hours of prayer with personal requests  
comes from a hard desert to an unkempt garden  
with sense erosion altering the spiritual places on the mountain.  
the not much longer rips the pages of the previous months off the calendar  
knowing they are not the symbolic now  
    and as the calendar begins to miss its pages  
        the same ones i miss as it gets thinner and thinner  
        and the issue looms larger and larger with vicious insinuations.

i decided not to live in fear  
    of the not much longer...  
        so i bought a calendar with thicker paper  
            and nailed it to my old creaking door  
                which will not fully open  
                    or fully close anymore.

the not much longer.  
wf.h.  
2023