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I always wrote in pencil

a long time ago
and then typed
on a machine
made long
before computers were general

Yes
children
there was such a time
more surely
than dinosaurs flew
and dragons still do

Now I use a keyboard
almost exclusively
but haven't told
til now
because
I didn't want it
in general gossip
that J.R.
gives up principal
that easily

but wait
I can explain
and will
I trow

Computers
when they work right,
which is more common
Now
than a few years ago
but still too much
not too much
are quite handy
though I worry that the young
never having lived
in a world
without

might think
the computer way
is the only
and always the best
way
but we older
can and do
protest

there are great amounts
of living that were
and are
better without
but having nothing
to compare with
you have lost forever
and don't even know it

and so many
areas
of living
are like unto it
Have you seen
old-growth forest
pristine mountain lakes
walked alone on a mountain trail
with no sound
but wind in ancient trees
tasted ripe fruit

Oh Dear

That isn't the primary
telling I was going to do
for you

Excuse me while I cry
and retch
oh wretched

I wanted to talk
about always
writing
in pencil
And now
I see

It's the same
the same conversation
the same subject

brings the tear
to my eye
for me
for you
for our children
and their children
who
all are lost

Are they?

It seems to be
up to you and me
to preserve and restore
our home
the earth
the universe
our thought
our sense of sacred life