

University of Canberra

Ross Gibson

Prose poems, written by members of the Prose Poetry Project, November 2014 to July 2017, compiled by the editors

Biographical note:

Ross Gibson is Centenary Professor in the Faculty of Arts & Design at the University of Canberra. His books include *26 Views of the Starburst World* (2012), *The Summer Exercises* (2008) and *Seven Versions of an Australian Badland* (2002). His most recent book of poetry, *Stone Grown Cold* (2015), is published by Cordite Books.

Mostly, you'll have to learn as you go. But here is information that might help you through the first days:

Luck can fall from the sky. But don't presume that it's all good luck.

The most popular song on the jukebox is something histrionic by Mister Roy Orbison.

'Shanti' is a word from an old Eastern scripture. Keep it available in your mind so it can serve your emotion.

The client will presume that there is nothing here – NOTHING – that is banned from importuning. This is regardless of whether or not the thing has a name. I mean, some other name, different from 'thing'.

There are nights when the rain hits the roof with a rhythm that's Cuban.

If ordered to use the knife, go at the task just like it's regular chicken.

(from *Seam* 2015)