

## Fascination Street

Dennis Etzel, Jr  
from *Everything is Ephemera* (Kellogg Press 2020)

another day down  
I'm down another day  
not sick but depressed  
like how that Cure song  
sounds on tape played  
loud enough to feel pressed  
synthesizer keys while  
that background hiss keeps  
hissing please listen  
I don't cry out  
Robert Smith cries  
visiting this street again  
looking at river in the gutter  
sinks deeper Facebook posts  
do nowadays following  
one self-care article down  
to another could I reach out  
on Facebook in the stream?  
I don't want to *drag you*  
*down with me* Spotify reminds me  
The Cure concert tour is nowhere  
near as guitars wail on reverb  
Robert Smith looks as old  
as I look old without makeup  
I will let you know when  
I'm putting on my face  
I'm putting on the late Eighties  
years I thought he sang *put*  
but he sang *pull on your face*  
I don't have a way to play  
cassette tapes while the old  
tapes sometimes click back on  
to play inside me so I  
put on my hair  
put on my pout  
listen give me a calms  
forté to slip me over  
sleep's shoulder because  
I love tomorrow