LAMBDλ 12

His hand being soft and slender, always slipping out of his jacket in order to shake your hand.

The man and woman now walk down the street, so simply. It reminds the poet of flying, this sense of moral ambiguity, floating over his own scene, seeing what God must see and realizing why God chooses to stay outside the margins, not having to explain his reasons. Why should the poet?

The readers watch, no one the wiser, but the man on the page hesitates at the woman's hand in his, slender, but lacking rough skin and sweaty palms that would clench at the man's hand as if they were grabbing for air. A stranger pokes his head out, from a dark deep alleyway sneaking onto the page, a derelict sentence fragment. Poetry isn't life the poet claims, but an explosion of life; the aftermath when all the pieces have separated leaving behind a poet rummaging through the ashes.

It's a matter of convenience, he screams. An invisible death between the lines and he is gone. So simple.

Scott Kaplan