

the asphalt is lava

contemporary
writers are hard to
distinguish
because they all
write how
they speak

the way
everyone speaks

I try to write
the way I speak
maybe a little prettier
but not much

I used to copy
all the writers
write like them
speak like them
but then I turned six

and stopped using phrases like
“but then I turned six”

I'd say
I am a contemporary writer
and an un-contemporary writer
a modern
a romantic
an absurdist

I'd say I'm part
journalist

part memoirist

part satirist

I'm a clown
a fool
a boob

I'm a gentleman
a lady
and a politician

a prophet
a liar
a con

and I write
the way I think
more so
than how
I talk.