to defy or tranquilize pretense to assimilate normalized till accepted caution falls to attrition to accelerate keep my head above the surface holding on against the current raise the glass to crown the heights to accelerate inhale the easy answer the burning embers wait traverse the gateway in a haze of smoke hits to pills until no other way to cope rendered lifeless keep my head above the surface holding on against the current rivers of toxins dragged under and down cought in a torrent until they disappear warnings fall on deaf ears fractured lives slowly break wounds and scars last for life puins left in their wake repulse by all that i see waves break over me everlasting loyalty straight edge in contrast to the conscious corpses that drift lifeless past keep my head above the surface straight edge against the current