

## Crack Pipes

Sage Francis

I'd give a 21 gunshot salute  
With the toy rifle that you bought me, but it won't shoot.

And all is well, because there's been one too many shots.  
The sterile robots want to talk to me about detox.

Stop the presses.  
There's been an update delivered via 1:30 AM phone call.  
When an only half-informative source talks discretely...

Meet me...at the family room on the side of the intensive care  
unit.  
Immediately...I'll carry a tune, but the siren's so loud I can't  
hear my music.  
Keep free...of negative thoughts. Everything'll be fine we all  
assumed.  
That it would go back to the way things were. That it would go  
back to normal soon.

I saw the moon in a way that I'd never seen it before when I lo  
oked up that night,  
Into the sky...wondering why...looking for answers. Guess I ain  
't asked right.  
I'm guessing most of y'all out there know exactly what that's l  
ike.  
What that's like. Tell me...what's that like?

It's like a whirlwind of emotions that occurs when moms and dad  
s fight.  
It's like when a girl grins and a motion of hers that holds you  
r arm and grabs tight.  
Hurl him into the ocean. One of those cold sweat, heat flash ty  
pes.  
But extreme fluctuations and temperature changes have been know  
n to crack pipes...  
Crack pipes...  
crack pipes.

Meet me...halfway and I'll go that extra length just to help yo  
ur strength.  
Meet me at the AA meeting, needing to take more than 12 steps.  
Bring me to your hiding place so I can face your vice grip.  
I'll chisel every single monkey off your back with this ice pic  
k.  
Come meet up with me on the sidelines when the game is over jus  
t to say hello.  
Then afterwards, backstage, to let me know that you enjoyed the  
show.

Then go to Grandma's house for Sunday dinner. Sit at the head of the table.

Take away the fatal flaw you made the day before I seen you bleed.

Meet me...on Christmas Eve. We can fight but make up before you leave.

Make visits with the rest of those who rest in pieces of my dreams.

Meet me at the fork in the road where the lost souls get indecisive.

Meet me at the crossroads so I can have someone to walk into the light with.