

Cascade

Anxious Inquiry

- A I want to call you to see if you're better
- B I want to know you are making progress.
- C I need to know you are okay.

- a Should I send an email or a letter?
- b A phone call gives me fast access.
- A I want to call you to see if you are better.

- c You sounded depressed the other day.
- d You needed support and nurturing.
- B I want to know you are making progress.

- e My fears battle with my empathy.
- f What can I say to lift your spirits?
- C I need to know you are okay.

(Cascade in tercets)

When I Misplaced Car Keys

- A What did I do with my car keys?
- B I must have had them last night.
- C Where did I place them in the dark?
- D My memory is slipping.

- a But today in daylight I can't see.
- b Pockets, surfaces, drawers—out of sight.
- c In the garage after I tried to park?
- A What did I do with my car keys?

- d I feel my breath and body gripping.
- e I've lost focus, concentration.
- f In frustration, I tend to swear.
- B I must have had them last night.

- g I'm getting late for my appointment.
- h No resolution. No insight.
- i Time to calm with dark chocolate.
- C Where did I place them in the dark?

j What was I wearing to the theater?
k Are they with the tickets?
l Oh, what jacket was I wearing!
D My memory is slipping.

(Cascade in quatrains)

Cascade: Invented by Udit Bhatia No set syllable count.

Each line from the 1st stanza makes those lines the final lines of the stanza afterwards.

As a tercet the Cascade is A-B-C a-b-A c-d-B e-f-C

As a quatrain the Cascade is A-B-C-D a-b-c-A d-e-f-B g-h-i-C j-k-l-D