

ASHOK MATHUR / Bildungsroman: a life in line items

- o emerge
- 1 crawl colour
- 2 focus on dog world of tall
- 3 words one at a
- 4 friends and a candle sonny pushed me bunny dies
- 5 i run skin knee run more blood but have to play
- 6 compete she is better i can get better math
- 7 anger at mother she won't let me futile
- 8 movie black and white flicker all the sounds
- 9 listen to music hear the tonal
- 10 want to be a doctor
- 11 searching for perfect score
- 12 there was a girl blush
- 13 like bones breaking to be tall
- 14 broken leg look out the window
- 15 studios only nothing more shy
- 16 laughter at school they think i'm funny
- 17 the kiss
- 18 proud and then what final school
- 19 college wanderings ennui
- 20 blue jeans sandals southern beach packing sand
- 21 love her forever
- 22 love is not all that forever she with him o
- 23 enrol again this time fierce
- 24 rum and trouble one night in woods; another, jail
- 25 study still fierce getting noticed
- 26 no one girl there for me so i play with many
- 27 mortarboard pride swinging tassle
- 28 father strokes mother attends so much to recover
- 29 working father's business daily calls to check from bed
- 30 he returns to desk, i find a college desk

31 thought there was no one but now she is, dissect first frog
32 pregnancy scare not but still breakup and reunite fight
33 marriage and life a future all hours at hospital ward to learn
34 born child so soon many hours awake
35 lost first patient to no one's fault still cry
36 three of us in canoe overturns scared laughter all
37 hang out shingle no one comes
38 read about opportunities overseas
39 big move middle east doctor to the rich and
40 travel back until she is not there missing daughter oh
41 tries a bit of stuff keep awake alert on shift all manageable
42 stuff a bit too much but money to be made patients to be saved
43 asked to take time off for own good meet her i've waited for
44 both using too much stuff i see it first she leaves i cry
45 back away from stuff and into work away in cold rural now
46 she comes back how can we both be so clean and dirty
47 working emergency hear the shot first then laid up, hurt
48 hurts when it rains otherwise good oh a surprise child to be
49 born something not quite right
50 surprise at bar all friends come by you're not getting older
51 now the back pains
52 investments paid off years of sacrifice time to live on beach
53 beach living not all it's cracked to be, make own hours
54 she says the same as the first have to go tears expected
55 daughter says she's in university and in love i wonder at the order
56 rolled the car on snowy embankment
57 another year in sun looking at smooth flesh, feel old
58 hips start to feel sad take up swim and run
59 who would believe at this age, with a younger man
60 call from equator meningitis steals the youngest cry cry
61 too much of doctors blood work take this give up run and swim
62 every day slower and then one eye goes blank like father before
63 relearn to walk to talk to take myself out

64 sunsets to live for cruise after cruise
65 he says he can be my love but not my caregiver the door shuts
66 slowly sipping beer in the afternoon looking at young men
67 daughter visits out of work stays for the winter this is family
68 storm takes out city lights stumbling big house time to downsize
69 take up writing as a lark surprised they are interested
70 small book prize but still
71 something wrong with digestion xray shows it and removed
72 sick days from radiating, caring daughter, first wife helps
73 fingers too gnarled some mornings but coffee still good
74 remembering all the classmates in fifth level every last name
75 they cut off gas because i forget to pay always now more
76 daughter brings husband for blessing he reminds of someone
77 there is a war starting somewhere and i wish i could travel to heal
78 trip downstairs all the way know it before it snaps
79 just drink juice and tea and sit no walking until winter
80 a bird calls my name and i laugh until they tell me to stop
81 no point in reading if sight and sense collapse
82 photographs crack my smile but who are all they from level five
83 pneumonia again damn mask who are you
84 each breath not like the last each moment grasped released