

## **You Are Tired And Desperate: Nothing Is Working.**

**So You Decide to Write a Formula Poem.- 1977**

*Wayne Dodd*

First, forget everything  
important.

Try to remember something from highschool  
chemistry class, say a moment of total  
incompatibility.

Let this stand for the beginning  
of a new solution.

Here you may discover that you are good  
at arithmetic. Divide  
and conquer, multiply and possess  
the earth. At this point  
draw a line down the middle  
of the page, like a lawyer  
in divorce court.

You must assume your life  
and writing are getting better  
with every move.

None of this, you say, adds up.  
Now you are ready for the next step.  
Take away everything left  
over, especially former times  
and familiar places.  
This is very important.  
you will not be given another chance.

Listen carefully to rain in early morning.  
Try not to think of endings.