

List of works

1. john was kept up all night by a mosquito, 44 bites, all on his face
2. john awoke to find that someone had stolen all of his hay in the middle of the night that he had saved up to sell at the market
3. john went to make some tea, but alas! there is no firewood
4. john walks outside to start his day, looks back, and realises that his house looks quite in disrepair
5. john finds out that his dog has died in the middle of the night, it was very old
6. john goes to bury his dead dog under his favourite tree and finds that it has fallen in the middle of the night and spilled its spiky poisonous leaves everywhere, john will have to sweep this up
7. john stubs his toe on a rock
8. john is walking back towards his house when a random man comes and bonks him on the head with a staff, john does not know who the man is
9. john goes fishing in the river and catches no fish
10. the snow leaves the mountain early this year
11. the bridge has collapsed from the strong current of the early mountain snow melt
12. the chickens have escaped their chicken coop, or perhaps a fox got them
13. none of the eggs from the escaped chickens hatched this season, at least john will have some eggs for breakfast tomorrow
14. john had to sell his favourite chair, it had extra comfy arm rests
15. john tills the dry barren field
16. a pair of birds sitting in a tree shit on john, ruining his nice shirt
17. the wind is too harsh, not great for john's eczema
18. the wind drops as soon as john gets in his boat
19. john watches the riverbanks flood from his boat
20. a crab pinches john's toes, it scurries off his boat into the water with a "plop!"
21. john visits a priestess for advice, but she has entered an indefinite vow of silence since yesterday
22. news of the war comes, john is worried about being conscripted
23. john is dyslexic, but flips through a few dusty books he owns to the pictures of animals
24. john cannot play any music, but blows into a broken bamboo flute futilely
25. john is bored
26. john shifts three pieces of heavy stone together to make an ugly, rickety, uncomfortable table
27. john accidentally breaks his favourite vase
28. john manages to make some tea but it is too hot and he burns his tongue
29. john finds a dead goose in his well, a bad sign
30. john forgot to water his plant and it has withered
31. john ponders about romance
32. john watches in the distance as a great fire consumes the local forest
33. there are some clouds, but no rain
34. the local townspeople demand john's favourite goat to slaughter as sacrifice, john unwittingly agrees
35. a giant rain comes and john gets soaked on the way home from the sacrifice
36. john chews on a large pepper he has in his pocket, but it is too hot and gives him stomach aches and firey poos
37. john sees some people gambling in an alleyway, john loses a large sum of his money
38. john finds an orange on the road unattended and takes a bite but it is too sour to eat
39. a flock of birds fly past and they all shit on john
40. john receives his exam results, they are not enough to keep him from being conscripted into the army
41. john's medicine gourd is dry
42. john receives news from a neighbour his friend has died in the war fighting in the local magistrate's army
43. john dreams about sex
44. john is awoken by the grasshoppers eating his crops and kept awake by the cicadas and frogs, haunted by the nocturnal hoot of the owls

*clockwise from left to right
pistaccio nut shell, pvc flexible card holder,
artline*

Jason Phu *the really bad day john had*

Gertrude Glasshouse
Friday 14 October - Saturday 12 November 2022

john has had a really bad day, he has suffered a series of misfortunes during this day. it is a terrible day, truly no other day has been more terrible. it is so bad. woe is john, what a terrible terrible day.

lots of bad things happened. john is very very unlucky, terribly unlucky. what other even more unfortunate event could happen? just so bad and terrible and horrible and annoying, not good.

Jason Phu is represented by STATION, Melbourne

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Gertrude acknowledges the Wurundjeri people as the traditional owners and custodians of this land and waters and pay our respect to their Elders past, present and emerging.