

Coming Apart—a four-part series

Category: visuals

written by Alan Blum | November 27, 2020



When my mother got sick,
took all to pay
her hospital bill.

She had Medicare
and Social Security.
They took all that
once they put her in
the nursing home...

Me and her
was living
pretty good.
I had a nice
big house
and a boat.

Boat went to pay
part of the
hospital bill.

I didn't get much for
the house.
Some I kept back to eat.

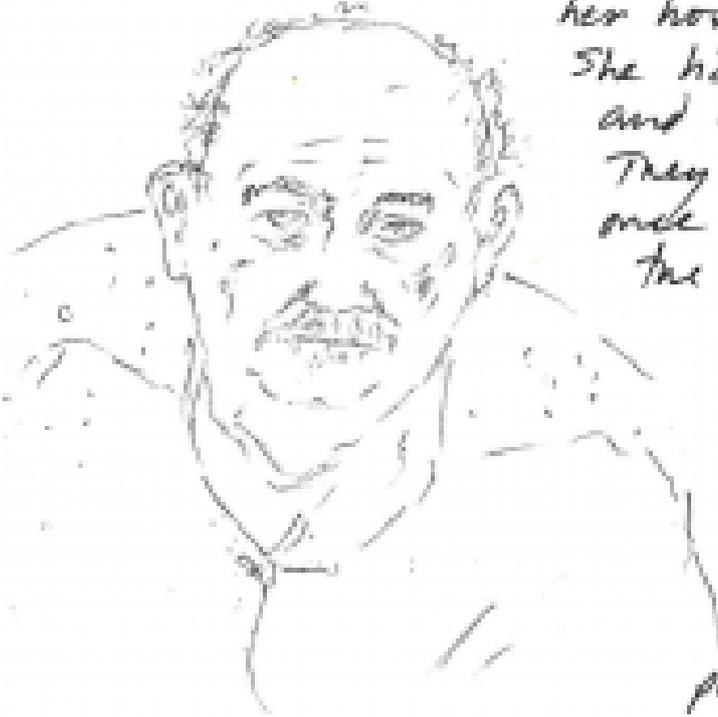
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and a boat.

But went to pay
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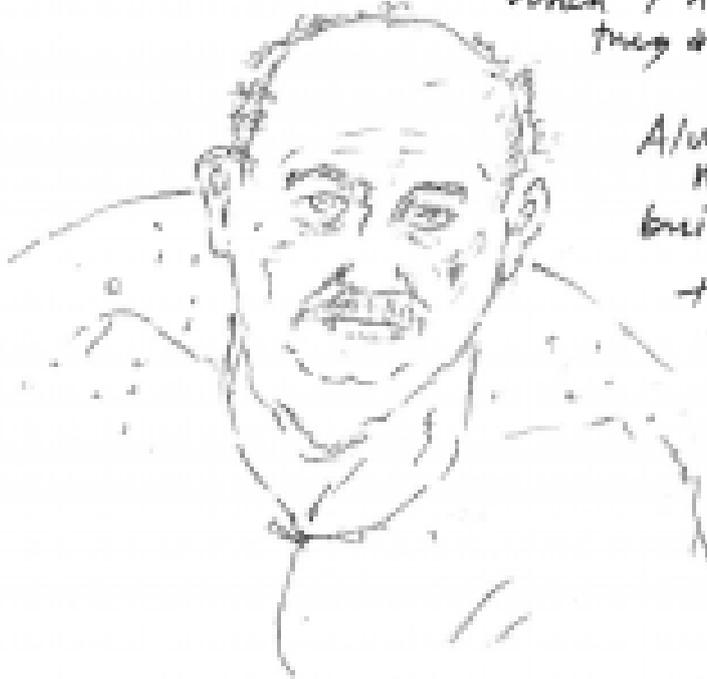
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All my friends kinda bit me in the back
after I got down like this.

They said get away.
Supposed to be my friend.

When I had money
they all came to me.



Always like to drive
nails + stuff...
built bowling alleys..

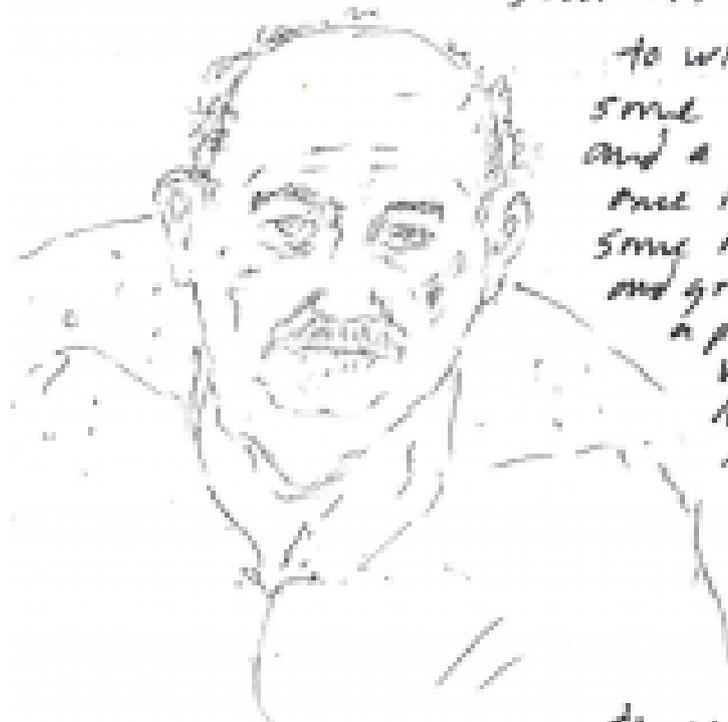
that's a job
trying to
drive them
square-headed
nails in that
pine + oak.

& I drove
a lot o'
copper nails,
300 pounds a day.

They're hard to drive
if you don't hit 'em just right
-- or you bend 'em.

Built wadden pipe on the
cooling towers,
laminated wooden pipe.

I can't go into a store and
walk around and do my shopping
cause I give out easy. I might be able to
make one aisle.
I'm lucky if I make one block.
I just sit around



to where I fix me
some vegetables
and a little round beef
one in awhile, and
some mash. potatoes
and gravy, make me
a pot o' soup,
vegetable soup
make me some
Mexican food.

Oh, I make some
mean enchiladas,
chalupas, too.

Yeah, my workin'
days are over.

When I was real young
I was quite sickly as a child.
I was epileptic, and they
operated on me for it
epilepsy.

5 or 6 months ago
I spent one night at Hobby
in the terminal. I just
sat there all night,
but it was a place...
the policemen's giving
me a couple o'
dollars.

I walked from Hobby
to Humble -- that's
where I come from.
I know it took
me all day.

Social worker at
Ben Tumb trying
to get me a place.

I said, it's run
across my mind,
but I said I didn't
have the guts to do it.

Do a little traveling,
a little fishing,
maybe go to Vegas.

He said, that's a wonderful idea.
I'd like to do it myself.

