

Dust

After they came down
the dust was everywhere

eyes ears and mouths
inside and outside

pulverized matter
through every opening

afflicting exposed tissue
— sometimes mechanically:

blocking smaller paths
irritating the flesh

— sometimes chemically:
inducing anomalies

in cells, chromosomes,
genes and their functions

biological changes
subacute to chronic

often unpleasant
in the extreme

— sometimes, in otherwise healthy
adults, terminal

— sometimes, in the young
and unborn, developmental

or transgenerational
to show up later

dangers Washington knew
and lied to us about

the EPA on orders
issued through channels

from the White House
by way of the CEQ

telling us it's OK
it's just dust after all

not enough in the air
to cause significant harm

(and as you can see we
aren't wearing gasmasks)

the risk is minimal
(though of course if you have

pre-existing conditions
you'll want to take precautions)

so please let's get back to work
get this mess cleaned up

business back to normal
the exchange going

let's show them over there
who did this to us

who they're up against
with our women and men

in uniform after them
in their own lairs

never letting up
until their oil is ours.

from *Mr America Drives His Car*