## **Passing Andrew James Paterson**

## September 19

I can't stay here

I have to go

I don't know where

Damned if I do

Damned if I don't

I have to work

I still have that

I need more sleep

I still feel drunk

Finish my coffee

And brush my teeth

Those are his pills

They're not my pills

If I took them

He would kill me

I know he'd do that

I'll go to work

That's a safe place

Compared to this place

But I don't live there

So, I finish work

Then I don't come home

This is not my home

This is their home

This is his home

I see the people

Who are either sick

Or else despicable

But they are the people

I know and talk with

Then I come home

And I hope he is sleeping

If he is not sleeping

Then there could be trouble

I don't want trouble

I am sick of the trouble

I can't stay here

I have to go

I don't know where

## October 10

I make final preparations

To go to work

Which is aggravating

But relatively safe

I brush my teeth

I see his pills

They're his and not mine.

Not my prescription

Last night was horrible I have to move By the first of December It's not my home It's their home His and hers Make that his I'll find something Probably worse than this But at least somewhere else I'll go to work And I'll come home But not directly. I'll see my friends My sick and damaged friends And they're not here They are somewhere else Repetition is comfortable Repetition is numbing Repetition is depressing Dammed if I do Damned if I don't I see his pills They're his They were his But... now they're mine Yes, now they're mine.

## December 21

Winter Solstice

Longest Dark Day

The Final Day Of the world Mayan Calendar Swear to God No exemption No redemption 2012 Don't know why And don't believe it Except I want to I hope the world Might stop existing I want to go All must go. Even the animals Who kill the humans They can go Since all must go. That mushroom cloud In the slowest movie

Looks so great

I want to join it

But I don't believe it

Two months away

People say that

December 21st

Is not the end

But a new beginning

So what must go?

Everything that must go

Everything so rotten

And foul and evil

Mayan Calendar

Swear to God

The end won't happen

Still I hope it might.