

*Everyone should have a slim volume of verse and/or prose that says a certain thing just so. It's 3 a.m. is just such a book.*

## **IT'S 3 A.M.**

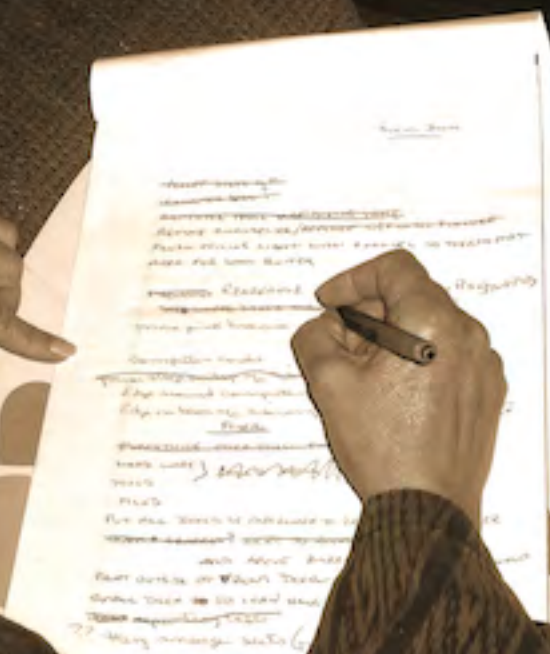
by Ruth Fenton

**Order the complete book from the publisher  
[Booklocker.com](http://www.booklocker.com)**

**<http://www.booklocker.com/p/books/9673.html?s=pdf>  
or from your favorite neighborhood  
or online bookstore.**

# It's 3 a.m.

by Ruth Fenton



Also by Ruth Fenton

Nothing yet. This is my first.

Copyright © 2018 Ruth Fenton

ISBN: 978-1-63492-945-5

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, recording or otherwise, without the prior written permission of the author.

Published by BookLocker.com, Inc., St. Petersburg, Florida.

The following have been previously published, many reprinted here in edited form. All rights retained by author.

“The Last Drive—In Picture Show” *Daily Press* [Newport News, VA] 15 Nov. 1991: D1. Print.

“One Legged Barbie®” first published under the title “Life’s lessons can come from children, too” in *Daily Press* [Newport News, VA] 10 Apr. 1992: D1. Print. Rpt. in Thomas Nelson Community College’s *Flagstaff* Vol.5 No. 22, “Disability Awareness Corner” by Tom Kellen. 11 May 1992. Rpt. in EEO/AA Annual Conference materials for the Commonwealth of Virginia, Department of Fire Programs. 20 Nov. 1992.

“Women” *Face Book* 24 Jan. 2013. *Downeast Coastal Press* [Cutler, ME] date and page unknown. Print.

“O, Say Can You See?” *Face Book* 29 Aug. 2016. *Countywide* [Machias, ME] 6 Sep. 2016: pg. 14. Print.

“Is It Enough?” *Face Book* 17 Aug. 2017; *Countywide* [Machias, ME] September 2017. pg unknown. Print.

The following were published on Face Book only:

“I Love My Husband” 28 Apr. 2012. “Explaining the Gap in My Resume” 13 May 2012. “A Story” 13 May 2013. “Happy Fourth of July” 3 Jul. 2014. “When Is Mommy Coming Back from Heaven?” 15 Nov. 2014. “I Grieve” 18 Jul. 2016. “Ode on a Transmeation Turn” 28 Aug. 2017. “Strays” first published under the title “Puppies and Homeless Men” 4 Nov. 2017.

COVER DESIGN BY RUTH FENTON AND BOOKLOCKER.  
PHOTOGRAPHY BY SADIE FISHER

Printed on acid-free paper.

Booklocker.com, Inc.  
2018

First Edition

## Tablex of Intents

*(A note to e-book readers: Click on Title to jump to page. The following page numbers may not match up exactly, depending on your e-reader settings.)*

Acknowledgments xiii

### *Poems and Lyrics*

Because of Something	22
Before the Day is Done	36
Can I Play Guitar in Heaven?	64
Dancing Cross the Sands	35
Daughters	55
Doing Right	76
Don't Rush	38
An Evening at the North End	26
Fog on the Waterfront	2
He Rambles	56
I Grieve	78
I Have a Little Cat	52
I lost her twice	42
An Improper Wake	80
Inconnu	19
Just Go	24
Long Dark Road	5
Moving Day	28
No Stars but Dana	32
Ode on a Transmeation Turn	1
O! Lighthouse	6

*Ruth Fenton*

One Morning	68
Party at the Lean—to	54
Sands of San Diego	61
The 2 <sup>nd</sup> Came and Went	53
September 1954—April 1975	13
Silver Area Rugs	58
Snapping Fingers in a Coffee House	8
Star Search	45
Strays	3
Take Me Home	9
Thing 2	50
Undershirts and Pantries	23
We're Going to Iceland	29
When Is Mommy Coming Back fom Heaven?	37

*Stories and Letters to the Editor*

City Farm	46
Explaining the Gap in My Resume	48
Happy Fourth of July	43
I Love My Husband	59
Is It Enough?	81
The Last Drive—In Picture Show	30
One Legged Barbie®	66
O, Say Can You See?	62
A Story	20
Women	16

*Random Nonsense*

burp	83
dust	69
Glass half empty	12
Grocery List	73
Inappropriate Thoughts	41
I Recite the Pledge	18
The Lies We Tell Our Children	79
Meet the Author	70
Recurring Conversation with Kathy K.	7
Safety First	xv
Secrets I'll Take to My Grave	33



*Ruth Fenton*

## *Ode on a Transmeation Turn*

We laugh till we snort which makes us laugh  
harder.

I'm older so maybe I even pee a little.

Our years of smoking turn our laughter into  
coughs.

When we regain our composure we sigh,  
wipe our eyes,  
and light up a cigarette.

We discuss our reading lists, gardens  
and new uses for old stuff

now a trend called 'repurposing.'

We plan household reorganization  
awesome crafts  
restorative vacations  
civic involvement  
and, of course, world domination.

We do some of it.

We silently lament

but never mention

all the years we were not full blown fabulous.

There were flashes, stretches,

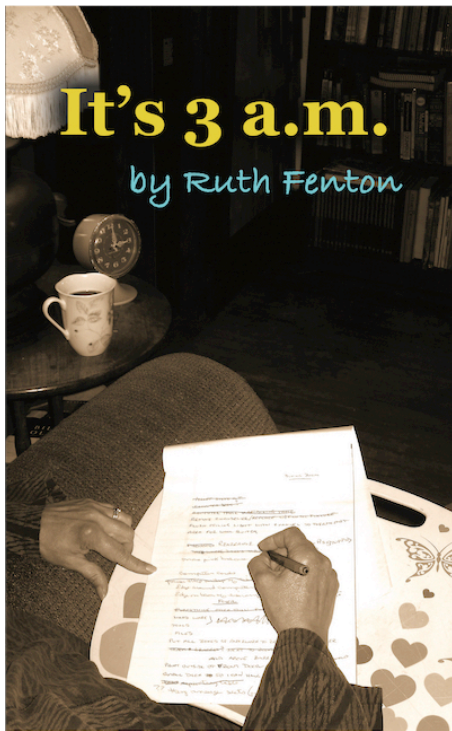
but always reigned in by other priorities

brush fires

shiny objects

and the need to be somewhere else

to be fabulous there...first



*Everyone should have a slim volume of verse and/or prose that says a certain thing just so. It's 3 a.m. is just such a book.*

## **IT'S 3 A.M.**

by Ruth Fenton

**Order the complete book from the publisher  
[Booklocker.com](http://www.booklocker.com)**

**<http://www.booklocker.com/p/books/9673.html?s=pdf>  
or from your favorite neighborhood  
or online bookstore.**