

Introduction to Being a Beginning Teacher (a.k.a. The Worst Student)

I ask them to put their phones away
And immerse themselves in the world of literature
Like an explorer in an un-treaded territory.

Or press their ears against its hive.

I say drop their worldly worries
And free themselves in their writing.

Or pay attention to their feelings
And think critically about them.

But all I want to do
is look into my phone
And only read what faceless books in it offer.

I tune out all advice I ever give my students
To be the worst example there ever can be.