

ORDINARY DAY: 9/11

An ordinary life on an ordinary day
Dream world interrupted by alarm
Rubbed my eyes, yawned, and stretched
Had a piss, took a shower, dressed
Grabbed breakfast on the go: a bagel
Morning meetings and decisions to make
R train downtown, not much room
Commuters suited and tied for business
Coffee from the cart parked out front
Brief chat with Madison on Reception
Pictures of growing children shared
Office life interrupted - plane impacted.
That look on her face. Eyes wide.
Screams erupted with fragments and fire.
Enveloped by smoke, no escape final.
Understood, refused to have no choice;
I stood on the ledge and I jumped
Filled with fear, watched by eyes below.
Captured by cameras, frozen moment -
Extraordinary act on an ordinary day.

Lisa Hawkins