

Blazing across an asphalt strip
heading further and further
away from her eyes
further and further
towards the heart of the desert
further and further
away from the light.

The black road shoots straight
a vein across a desert thigh
the full translucent moon
bathes like a natural nightlight
the light of the almost dead
perfect light for a romantic drive.

Time disappears in the desert night
a busted dashboard clock
a powerless wristwatch
those are lies: the time is two am
lies are more romantic than the truth
moviemakers love the romantic
but their romantic ends happy
come rain or shine
most romantic times happen
alone with the moon.

Root word of romantic: rome
as in roma capital city
of italy ancient empires
the catholic church the vatican
colosseum catacombs.

Should be: roam
to ramble wander rove
second half: antic
a playful trick or prank
a buffoon or clown.

Piece it all together:
a playful roving buffoon
the translucent moon
plays romantic pranks
on those rambling about
by morning the clown is gone
replaced by the all-seeing sun
who forbids tricks on his watch.

If you drive far enough
away from the shallow sunshine
of neon city lights
if you find a whole lot of nothing
don't panic: remember
romantic places felt lonely too
before you arrived.

Keep alert
you might find something
strange occurrences
happen all the time
you just might find yourself
on a surface that looks like the moon.

Look around
feel the sand
howl for a coyote
if nothing howls back
if you can't recall
how crickets sound
if the only voice you hear
is your own drifting away
if you look up and don't see
the translucent moon
don't panic: remember
it just means your romantic side
took you too far tonight
you're the man in the moon.

If you find yourself
the man in the moon
on a cold desert night
don't panic: remember
it happens all the time
sometimes loneliness
gets the best of you
even the strongest
can't survive.

The man in the moon
our lighthouse keeper
works alone in the sky
keeping lost vessels afloat
in the dark lonely night.

If being the man in the moon

proves too much for you
if the blade occupies your mind
you find life slowly changing
from color to black and white
before all turns translucent white
don't panic: remember
you're the man in the moon tonight
shine your light lovingly
let hope guide your sight
be the man in the moon
for those lost souls
too lonely to try their eyes
use your light so they might see
into the dark night
and find another gazing off
for no good reason
save your light.