



1-1-1971

On the Line in Fast Water

HAPPY HAPPY HAPPY as if
As If As If As If As If that is
that is the New Year's game
(no pain they say no gain)

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AS IF. Of course one thinks of Mallarmé
the mystery
flung down
screamed

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and
at the edge of the void

which is nothing more and nothing
less than the whiteness
of the paper and Snow
arrives. I mean the doctor

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for that was his name. And
home birth was his fame.

Hank Williams dies after the cross
of the New River. The train blows
its lonesome whistle. The raft guide
looks to rescue someone. **Something.**

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At the edge of the uncertain
a man who sees only his daughter
following Lincoln freeing the slaves
following Ellis Island
following the Canadian Citizenship Act of 1947
following Castro's victory march into Havana
following the indictment of the Watergate thugs
following the enactment so many years later
of Civil Unions in New Hampshire



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There is such a thing, a vague and never to be
defined thing, such as hope. As a future bright

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bright **light**
a site



into the New Year's

Canadian night

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