

## Spare Parts

ED: "To offer brave assistance"; "The Brain is wider than the Sky"

Al

Lean on me  
as I have two legs.  
I'm not greedy.

*Having extra,*

I can afford to break one.

But mind  
my brain:  
for of that,  
I only have one.

Lean on me  
as I have two sets of ribs.  
I'm not greedy.  
*Having extra,*  
I can afford to give one.

But mind  
my heart  
for of that,  
I only have one.

Lean on me  
as I have two arms.  
I'm not greedy.  
*Having extra,*  
I can afford to lend one.

But mind  
my soul  
for of that

I shall,  
solely ever,  
have one.

Ivy

Like Shylock's  
pound of flesh  
taking and giving

justice  
requires hurt  
so be clear:

when you give  
leg or rib to lean on  
there's a tear

jot of blood  
breaking the contract  
not to shed

better to give all  
we can stand  
without because

mind and  
soul suspend  
the whole

upend the bowl  
of our needing  
to hoard

all for  
ourselves  
so give

without stint  
what it takes  
to come out even.