

as if it mattered (gambling sounds)

FREDDA S. PEARLSON

if today moves
through its hours
with no lost rings
with no nausea
with no bones aching
or hearts bent
to the point of breaking
with no last breaths
no last rites
with only fruit
and oatmeal
a new pair of shoes
two new pens
and tiles for the kitchen floor
then you can
take a chance
cut your hair
gain five pounds
and lose them
walk the dog
feed the cats
and season
your spaghetti sauce
tonight
as if it mattered