

## **Timothy Gager**

### **when you live by yourself**

you can bench press  
your weight in quietness  
get so you talk  
to your cats  
but they won't say  
"I love you," back

you listen to the world  
through those feeling-sorry-  
for-myself songs

you wish  
you never played

over and over again

**Timothy Gager** is the author of eight books of poetry and fiction.  
He lives on [www.timothygager.com](http://www.timothygager.com)