

Hearing Loss

I lost part of my hearing
In a rock and roll band
And part in one of our wars.
Sometimes it's frustrating. I'm forced
To assume my students know
What they're talking about; I
Don't. And I'm forever stuck
In the back booth of a restaurant,
Eating goosberry pie
A la pistachio ice cream.
There are compensations, of course:
When my woman tells me she loves me,
My next-door neighbor's next-door
Neighbor's wife says, "Harry,
Everything's okay at the Grays'."

Patrick Worth Gray