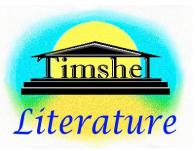
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Just Thinking, 08/18/03:

Meetings on the Road, VII: Incremental Deliberation

by Justin Katz

At the crossroads, three men, tied hip to hip, debated which way was wisest for all. The man farthest right, with white-knuckle grip, grasped his collar as if his coat might fall.

"I just don't see," said the one farthest left, whose scanty clothes barely clung to his hide, "why, based on arguments that are bereft of proof, Better Days Road should be denied."

The middlemost man looked that way and said, "Our rightward friend speaks truth: traditions hold that plains of scathing heat await ahead.

One mile should safely show who's been cajoled."

Miles along, the coated man gasped to state, "To our own demise, you will acclimate."