

Upgrade

When was the last time you craved
a new and improved beach at journey's end,
instead of the same beach that was here
a year ago? Or ten years ago? Or a hundred?
Are you not satisfied, today, simply with the sand,
the sun as it has shone in exactly this spot
for centuries past, the gentle rhythm
of the ocean, over and over—the way it
has always sounded: unamplified, unadorned,
unenhanced by a single new technology?

When was the last time you felt the need
for an upgrade to hiking trail two point one?
Is it not true that as you return once more
you long to find the trees, the mountain
views, the waterfalls still and forever
just as you remember them from
that very first visit which now
seems so long ago?

No smart screen here,
no remote control,
no address on the world wide web.

Not needed.

Just you, right
where you belong
for a change.

Steve Bloom
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