

# NSA

At the NSA, there is a joke  
about introverts and extroverts.  
Introverts, they say, walk the halls  
and stare at their own shoes.  
Extroverts, they say, stare at  
other people's shoes.  
No one stares at me.  
They just walk by.  
This is my heart failing.

**Eric Fair,**  
**on collapsing from heart failure in a hallway**  
**while returning from lunch at Fort Meade, in**  
**Consequence: A Memoir**