DEFINITION OF THE SOUL

The best poems in John Skoyles's Definition of the Soul find solace in small scale. Their particular skill--announcing the Looming whose umbrage prompts them, but answering with barely lumen enough to light the singer's face and his next step--represents one of the best possibilities of the lyric.

The title poem, which opens the book, employs precisely this pattern. Its large problematic, defining the soul, has overwhelmed many minds, from Plato and Aristotle to the present. The title's ambiguity affords Skoyles two options: tender a finished definition or navigate the act of defining. He chooses the latter. Rather than attempt to transcend the problematic (a vain striving for survey at which abandon hope all ye who enter), Skoyles walks carefully through its shadow, cupping his hand in front of the candle he carries. "The attempt to separate my soul from..."
and soul of what we do, take those young people and develop them. From NOLA.com. And it also has a certain amount of soul. From Hollywood Reporter. When she first walked through the doors, she hadn’t known a soul. From Huffington Post. I gave it to 150 souls who had shown up at a conference about film. From Huffington Post. He used to visit your dreams, in the long nights of your soul. Fr