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## Encre de Chine

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*College of DuPage*

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**Groupie**

Please don't write any  
                   songs about me  
 our affair isn't ready  
                   to be copyrighted  
 we ought to get together  
                   and work on the lyrics  
 maybe toss in a few chord changes

Please don't play any  
                   songs for me  
 don't throw off my timing  
                   by dropping lines  
 give me a chance to practice  
                   this new arrangement  
 that refers to us  
                   in the present tense

Please don't sing any  
                   songs to me  
 don't employ poetic license  
                   or change my name  
 I'd rather tap my foot  
                   to someone else's story  
 vodka and jealousy  
                   coursing through my veins

just keep on working me  
                   into the patter

don't ever stop  
                   playing our song...

-Leslie Lee

"A valuable friend is one who'll tell you  
 what you should be told, even if it offends  
                   you."

-Frank A. Clark



"Doughboy" Michael J. Burrell

*Encre de Chine*

Someday, life may begin—  
 Exploding, budding vibrance of spring,  
                   In human form

Purpose will shed regret,  
 And the past, with its comic defeats,  
                   Erased with one pure warmth

Now— but for right now, we sit and stare,  
                   Or drive full throttle  
 Into oblivion, at the speed of derision

Hoping that a reason  
 Will interrupt this destructive dance,  
                   And straighten crumpled visions

With harsh realisation comes sadness—  
                   Never understanding why  
 Acceptance is given or withheld

With harsh realisation comes sadness—  
                   At finally conceding  
 Happiness depends on someone else.

-Ian Sherer