He wondered whether the had success

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Saw Farake For

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No. 12, October 1982

83

Al Ackerman
Guy R. Beining
John M. Bennett
Ernest Noyes Brookings
Judson Crews
Michael Dec
K. S. Ernst
Sue Fishbein
Giovanni Fontana
Jeff Fright
Ubaldo Giacomucci

S. Gustav Hägglund
Davi Det Hompson
Dave Johnson
James Johnson
Joel Lipman
Vicky Mansoor
Keith Rahmmings
Dan Raphael
Paul Weinman
no wise
Spike Young

#### Cover by Joel Lipman

Thanks to David B. Greenberger and the DUPLEX PLANET for providing the poem by Ernest Noyes Brookings

Ohio Arts Council Individual Artist
Mini-grant Recipient/FY 1982



Mouth of Anta

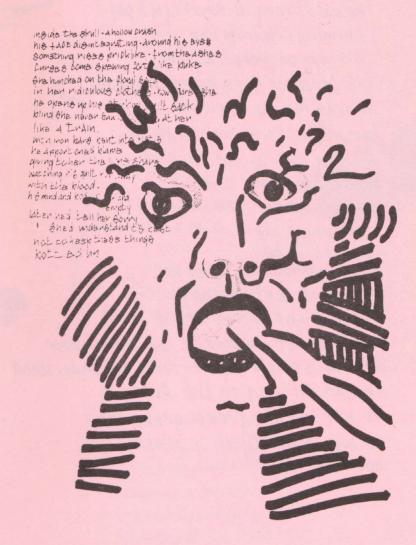
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Spike

he was standing by the asoken he was stimming at something in a pain tunning towards her his apron looked bizgung his face not quite humanly annanged he was moving forward hen moth like an open ganage backing up she lost a shop hishing out the noom kicking off the nemdining shop it dropping like a stunned insect against 4 Wall he was shouting after her pounding feet on the stairs steing the green dress flash hearing her clawing at the outside door Baying something he could not understand he was sitting on the sofa he was holding one green shot he was staning at a photograph not seeind

dog

| pawadog

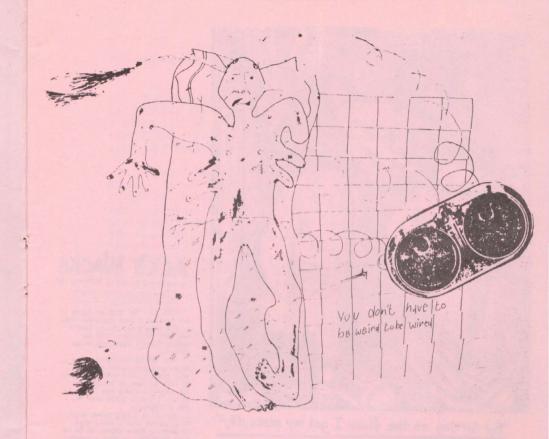
it had no legs

it was burnowing in the mud

It had two heads

one sharing ned eyes

one digging a hole.



man eats road
hlack plastic bags flapping
like crows round his sticklegs
Swaying in the noad
clutching himself
tearing at his skin
hailing like a train
they proze the chickenheads
on sounds like that
til the dank rubs him out
like a swean word.



"By Sitting on the floor I got my pants off!"

## ACK'S WACKS

DR. AL AGMERNIN

SOME WILL SAY that my facts are loutish & even uneavory. But, as the late great Philip Guston was wont to remark, this is morely "true". There are other criteria.

Your editor has asked me to do an occassional column. His only instructions were that I was to hold it down if possible to one page—he knows how I tend to go on. I didn't quite make it, but I trade...

but I triad....

Actually, I have known about
this, known that I would wind
up here in these pages, or to be
sore truthful, in your company—
since November of 1964. So you
could say I have known about it
for nearly 20 years. Not that I
am wildly psychic or anything of
the sort. I have a fair amount
of intuition, but this intelligence—that I would wind up here
talking to you—belongs to an altogether different category of

experience. The explanation to such a mysterious phenomena goes like this:

In November 1964, I was a prisoner of the U.S. Military, in Montgomery, Alabama.

In was 24 at the time. Naturally, given all their low cumning and wast experience in this sort of shady farrago, the military never cared to publically admit that I was being held prisoner, and so my true status was kept cameflagued under the nebulows title of Medical Service Specialist—a smokestreen that ostensibly included attending classes, working in the dispensary and so forth, but they never fooled me for a second; I knew a prison when I saw one.

Mant I did, mostly, when I men't marching to class or juggling bedpans, was What I did, mostly, when I men't marching to class or juggling bedpans, was drink. It was old Goeths, wasn't it, who spoke about "the ancient primitive distinction between an alcaholic and a drunkard—" Mell I have been a drunkard in good standing off and on for most of my life. I got pretty drunk on Jax Beer with H.P. Lowecraft and Ambross Bierce last night as a matter of fact. But my days as a prisoner of the military during the 60s were the only times I ever same close to becoming an alcaholic.

Besides drinking myself into stupors, the other things I found to do, the way a baboom might find the toes at the end of his feet, were 1) play cards, 2) read the complete works of James M Cain, 3) indulge in solitary vice, and 4) tary to mail myself.

This last is a suphemism, of course. It has to do with attempts at formication, hand jobs, blow jobs and so on, carried out under the worst possible circumstances. What it was, I shared expenses with three of my fellow prisoners in illegally main-

taining wheels—a wheezing 1947 Cadillas—which we kept off-base, in a clandestine garage. The names of my fellow prisoners were Linthead, Fuck Face, and Zero. Never mind what they called me. We used the rat-trap Cadillac on weekends to entice the local Alabama belies into our company, and we became fairly widely known as four deadbeats who would head straight for the Magnolia Drive—in Theater with a bottle of Four Roses whiskey and extremely limited funds and try to get funny right away, and since none of us would trust the others alone with the Caddy, it was always a mob scene. Eight struggling bodies in a 1947 Cadillac is still the most uncomfortable arrangement I can think of. Even when things were going well, to get to the point of the suphemism, it was like trying to mail yourself.

I still remember the night of November 1964, and that the second feature playing at the 'agnolia Drive-in was "Reptilicus."

I might have stayed in the car for that second feature if I had done what my lovely companion of the evening, Nettle Sum, had done, which was to have me more slug of Four Roses and pass out. But I found myself in agony instead. It was freezing that night, and the load of jism in my shorts was beginning to dry and harden; it felt like a clammy icy plaster gripping my loins! My only thought was to reach the men's room, which was in the same squat blockhouse as the projection booth and the snack bar, and ditch the offending shorts. I would have done it the minute I staggered into the men's room, but the place was occupied by three or four creckers. I waited ten minutes in high agitation for the room to clear and then, by way of ensuring privacy, put my back against the door and clawed at my buttons.

I eventually wound up sitting down on the floor. It seemed the only way to get my oants off over my tennis shoes—especially in my half-bombed condition. I remember standing up—my trousers in one hand, my foul sticky shorts in the other (I still had on my sports coat, shirt, socks and tennis shoes)—and was in this crueiform posture, looking blearily around for a trash recepticle to ditch the shorts in, when I first glimpsed the other door, a metal one set in the far wall. It was directly opposite ms, and as I stood paralyzed, it swung open and the projectionist stepped through out of his booth and into the men's room. For one long moment we confronted each other—wordlessly-Then he said, "Well, Gawd-all-mighty!", and jumped back inside, slamming and

locking his door behind him.

I have played that scene again and again in my mind over the past twenty years—"The Look in the Projectionist's Eyes!" It is sometimes given us to actually know in detail what will become of us—a kind of eerie blinding insight into our future lives that occurs in an instant. And that night in the men's room of the 'agnolia Trive-in, I experienced such insight, seeing my destiny reflected in that nan's staring eyes, irrevocably.

my destiny reflected in that man's staring eyes, irrevocably. What it told me about myself was that I would never have much money—nor was I likely to become a Rotarian, a banker, a cop, a Sundayschool teacher, or a pillar of any community—but that if I made it through the military alive I might expect to have, not an easy life, but an interesting one—an interesting life among others of my same ilk and kidney. There, at the age of 24 and with my ruined shorts in hand, I was let in on this strange and comforting revelation, and as you can see, since we are in fact here together now, that's pretty much the way it's worked out, you little cutie.

RECLUSE (CASFE)
212 W. Courtland
San Antonio, Tx 78212

your editor apologized for
the tiny type on theze poz,
but Dr. Ackerman exceeded hiz
zpace allotment by double.
Turge you, however, to read
this tale, which faithfully
reproduces the original typeccript——ed.



MAFIOSO

My acid tongue slits throat to throat and the speed of the lamp losing light facinates while you grasp its lack fascinates as you recognize the maniac

Three times life flashes through the purple windows of the house Is it chocolate you smell as bullets fill your chest and a cadaver drops like two gonads

The last red gasp of sunset passes a rooftop under the ocean Your hat rolling crazy down the road like the dog who has bitten death

What are these uncountables as I adorn my life with the waste of others Is the way out of the cavern the way in Must I gulp repeatedly

Look, it is you in death's crevice I stand, victorious, a monument What are those lamentable stones beating beating my heart

Joel Lipman Translitic from Julian del Casal's "La última noche"

TO MY FRIEND
("in the manner of the poems of Leopardi")

You would abandon me? An out-of-towner fellow poet--just today I've lost my shirt all my books and papers torn like an amnesty note to enemies who invite me over then slam the door! Bastard, I'm no Witness hustling Watchtower, but on Saturday morning I can spot a con when I see one. The back of your accelerating car I love fascistically. Friend, put your teeth on the table. Friend, would you leave me in the jungle without a rag to dance to? Why drop me at the corner of nothing and nothing, my tongue lolling?

Joel Lipman Translitic from Julián del Casal's "A un amigo" Friend, every dog in the hemisphere calls some place home.

But who fucks with who? What with the stone cold Puerto Rican

accent like a siren? No-one sings for pisswater.

We pray dumb for Dondi daily to be past poverty, healthy,

while night holds no deep sleep, not while endless garbage trucks enter the driveway.

Look! One sheet fluttering from the hilltop, a sign of nothing,

friend, it's just a matter of deciding--government like a grumpy boss,

a slut to slobber for and frighten, the cup of belladona while I whiten.

A mess, life one hasty yes after another.

Father of my holy mother, there is no brotherhood after.

Joel Lipman

30

I stomped the ken dull
pleased to find no belly button
"cloned" sez Barby "but not
even anatomically close, take
me away from this" sez she
noticing my bulging Navel

#### THE BRUTE

This type is found all over earth From morning, noon until night Before asking is it materially worth Drastic action and a fist fight

There is a saloon with other pals Always happy with joyous glee One from a table to his gal -Would you enjoy a fast spree?

Brute's full of pep, really alert Enjoy all dances including the rhumba The favorite wears a white skirt While twirling never slumber

Once with a texas cowboy ranger Sir, your saddle has a bad sway Even though a total stranger You can certainly play

With a group around a campfire How many branches on a tree Even though brutes may tire Their horse enjoys a spree

On a target range in state
Aim at target with precision
Pull the trigger and wait
For the target operator's decision

Once in a local court room

Near a county cross-barred jail

To judge - you need a whisk broom
With all decision do not fail

With donkey on a cattle range Did not have a white sail His animal voice was deeply strange But did not resemble a whale

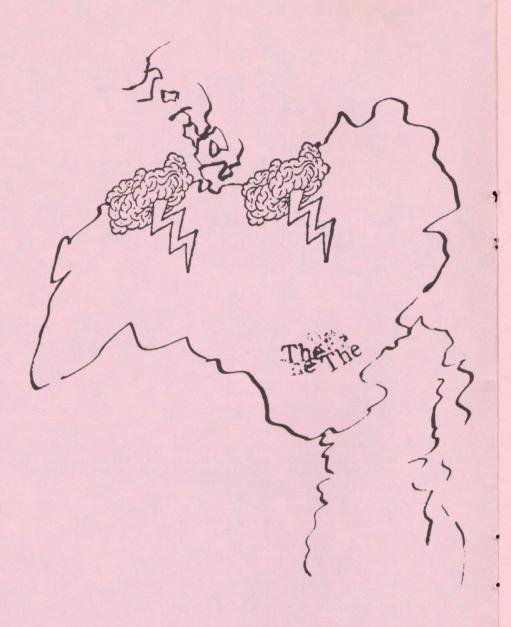
Ernest Noyes Brookings

#### UH GONE WHEEL UH MEAT & WATER

I heard bagpipes in my dinner There was fission ... my heart singing northward something half muffled from the inside & the sub tropical midnight sun half eclipsed from the outside I heard waves crashing & the gulls returned to the tiny cold stars & the gulls returned to the tiny cold stars My infant antennae laid bare glistening over the concrete moors of Michigan A cold moon drips blood on a dark hospital o dark hospital night o uh newborn baby singing like cold painterly bagpipes like a musette fulla plasma like a horn that wails at tiny cold stars spread too thin & the parachute burns Flares pop over the sodden field where the car lays on its side its radio playing northward something muffled I heard laughter in my coffee I heard the waves break

#### GAS & MARBLE

IT'S TRANSCENDENTAL GAS he yells & lets his body swell till elongated eyes press against the ceiling. He takes a breath deep explosion of fungus triggering neon domino effect down Main Street where a horse thief gallops in his own rain hardening into cracked, ivy strangled marble. The thief's eyes sputter in their thousand years' passage, deep gaping. Halloween opium den in relaxed shades of blue & purple, allowing further reproduction of flimsy structures, Ice China translucent around sacred larvae; a balsa heart, a Mandarin sky pressed outward by a baby's finger



John M. Bennett

I was looking at my hands I was seeing tiny spots I was thinking about TV I was wanting to sleep in the basement I was standing at the door I was watching bloody feathers on my car I was touching the knob I was feeling salt fill up my mouth and gravel falling from the sky

I was stuffing crackers through my lips I couldn't see the table I couldn't see your eyes my fingers gritty slippery "Look at me" you yell I try to wipe my face my eyelids burn my tongue is white and stuck between my teeth

My shoes were damp I was standing on the grass bees zipping out a hole I walked out to the alley stood next to a power pole heard the hummzing in the lines above "No sky?" I thought and looked up to the clouds heavy and lumpy past my floating head

#### DEATH TRANSFER

Nails rusting through the paint my eyes are sweating and running I see damp trash heaped in the alley I stand before the door my pockets heavy and chaffing my legs a key shakes in my hand

I lay on the bed I heard the water hissing on the walls felt cold air rising from my burnt slimy skin I thought of dogs running toward the river in the steaming rain

I was standing on a roof I was seeing sunlight needle on the shingles I was fearing the ground speed up at me and grabbed the chimney its deep coolness pulling at the backs of my eyes

#### TROUSERS LINED

Somehow.self-assurance had so infested itself in my easy glance that the first feel of rough lips on my legs made little impression. And my well-phrased flow of greetings and quick notice of purposeful grace passed silken in every face.

Yet there were raspings at my thighs. Even the satin lining of newly selected worsted wools didn't help. Selected, by the way, within panelled booths all rimmed in marble.

I tried ignoring the discomfort by returning each perfumed compliment with my own of more silvered tone. Even to offering lowered eyes, slightest touch of hand pressing for champagne so cool in golden effervesence.

But as my phrases spoke more of fantasies disguised as the lies they were, even those less guilty than I were standing back discreetly to glance ... even stare at the thrashing taking place beneath the gray of my trousers tailored.

Finally, in fear of what was unknowingly eating at my knees, I ripped wool away. Exposed - flesh all in pocked holes yellowed brown. And lizards ... a lot of those.

Some associates laughed, a few turned in their cards, but most spoke easily of yesterday's market's unexpected slump.

Paul Weinman



(hammer hitting the bloody clock)

On a late night subway platform I cut the Marlboro mans eyes out

# COP SHOT DREAMS

liked the sociopathic look of the kid's eyes .

he cop's wound to plug up the fountain of blood.
rainy night glowed with the red lights of other cop of

Pork bellies too abstract.

unloaded a trailer of hangers for breakfast - went out on an afternoon ticket for five tearing down pyrobrick walls in a dusty basement full of damaged christmas trinkets, decorations, flannel flags from different states, boxes of old invoices

put the headed half of smashed porcelain saint in a lightbulb cage with a stalk of tiny plastic bananas, backscratcher skeleton hand, bride, and half a blond mermaid, the burnt remainder of an old flag on a stick

headless jesus in a dead refrigerator with a decoy duck in the freezer disemboweled fuse box black wires hanging photo of someones son suspended on the prongs of a kitchen fork

mildewed nudist magazine "they all sat down to eat"

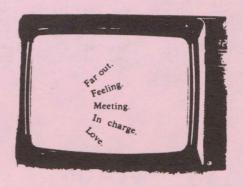
S. Gustav Hägglund

#### EXPERIMENT IN PERCEPTION

INPRINT of mecca on tarnished indian HEAD TRIMMING space to zero with disc of head to exploit axis the CIRCLE bargains with itself and watches a wounded SAILOR PUSH HIS TONGUE OUT spied gravity of moon OVER MELON TOPS all the loudspeakers OF tomorrow TOAST A ROW OF numbed nuns seek the TANTRUM THAT GOT CUT into the head of the ANTelope a view from HANDLE BARS the ear of it pieces escape telephone the security OF LIVING CUTSIDE THE HANDLE A LAMP sculptured in bone light a buzzard sucking 9 LIVES OUT OF A CAN WHEELS the sky in DRAWINGROOM WITH cabinet featuring a set of black holes the PLAN WAS EXECUTED thru the eye of an oyster sausepan gathers stellar mix AS TELESCOPE eyeballs props of unyellow wall from INFORMAL GRAY SHOWLDERS a red block quickens.

Guy R. Beining

### The first name



Ubaldo Giacomucci

FOR ELEPHANT BAMBOO

The street cleaner nights the windows

their boobies stand out like something alive

streaks
of dirigible litter drifting down
as these three-wheelers

scavenge

the streets, humped like porcupines with lights turning an amber beacon

beckoning tits or behinds every lighted window

seeking

eyes eyes eyes

in the makeshift

bamboo dawn in the elephant pre-light dawn

THE WALL

Of my memory, breaking and falling in pieces you are here again though I had ruled you out

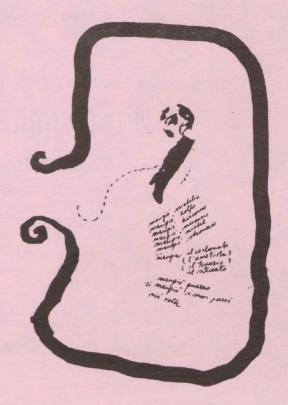
The pieces laid, end to end the singularity of every one is secure as that hour and that day was

Why have I built such a honeycomb to store them no sweetness of any one has been the same as the sweetness of any other

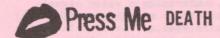
Judson Crews

potato chairs and chairs whos fire is an honest godfucking myth: these chairs were strutty as mountains and carved by prehistoric pelicans: a gold chair around his neck whistling without his jockeys; minestrone with a tiny pasta chair whirling for help, chirruping a radio signal thats like two quarters at once in speedfreak; long torturous chairs that no one is related to: holidays that seem made up with a pulsing charred chair on a spotlit dais with growling brown thorn vines lashing enticingly from it and radio is invented; today i woke up as a chair that could walk and use the aircomb, but all the buildings were gone, just extensive people losing all language and odor -- its that time of year: the chair is ringing; the chair is 200% natural, freeze-fried and revving at the curb with my name on it; the chair fell through space so no one could get to it, so the ganges became its scarf and bibbins flash by bringing stock reports; before i could thread the music the clattering yeast-lot of chairs had given the hyperkinetic town its annual cap and level

Dan Raphael



Giovanni Fontana



I SAW YOUR KISS

AT THE TOP OF THE CLEAN LAMP WIND

A BURNING POODLE ON THE STEPS

YEARS AGO
I HAD A CHANCE TO
GO ANYWHERE BUT IT WAS

## DOG TIME

NO TIME TO

## TRY SUICIDE

The blood MADE ME ONE STEF TOO SICK - NOW

The blood DANCES WITH ME

SAY GOODBYE. GRINDER

DEATH 15 NO SNAKES

it is the BLANK WALL

SO I GET NO ANSWER

K. S. Ernst & John M. Bennett

DAVI DET HOMPSON DEFINES JOHN M. BENNETT'S WORDS

Blunker - noun, one who blunks. A blunker is a person who presses large dimples into car doors and fenders with a foot or knee.

The - The Thes were a primitive tribe living on the southeastern shore of what is now Great Britain. Named after a characteristic sound made whenever they pointed to objects.

Histic - A permanent open boil-like sore that is used by East Indian gurus to absorb all of the body's ailments into one place. Usually induced in an out-of-sight area; for example, on the inner side of a knee or under the hair.

Lumberate - To turn over in one's mind, to consider large, formless concepts of contemporary and historical importance without conclusion. Although usually conducted without acknowledgement, a conscious episode of luberation can be triggered by a minor occurrence such as the crack between a store window's dummy's hand and wrist or a TV news reporter staring into the camera as he waits for a pre-recorded message.

Gaster - The plastic pull-up tip on a white glue or liquid detergent bottle that opens and closes the spout.

JOHN M. BENNETT DEFINES DAVI DET HOMPSCN'S WORDS

Noggle - n. cranial drain hose, used after surgery. v. to jostle a person's hoses; i.e., to confuse.

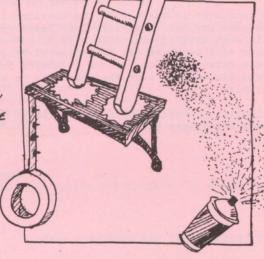
Wamp - n. viscous ooze on basement walls. v. (colloq.) to spit on
a person's pants.

 $\underline{\text{Sucigate}}$  - v. to walk with the knees turned out and slumping to the right or left with each step; applied to ambitious civil servants.

Fluch - adj. used to indicate a stopped-up toilet that is full to the brim with fecal matter, as in "a fluch toilet". v. to fill with fecal matter.

A#
LADDER
STANDING IN
PETROLEUM JELLY

B# TACKS STICKING ON MASKING TAPE



C# AEROSOL FALLING OFF SHELF

DET 2/81

#### THE PHOTOGRAPHED HOUSE

The skin of her face had been burned. As I walked the steps leading to their house I dared look at her grimace of pain felt in that first terrible searing; now permanently stretched from temple to jaw.

Inside the house "The Seven Samauri" had begun. On the floor a cockroach was scratching toward me, touching its way from table to chair leg, its stealth betrayed by the television's blue-grey light. I asked, "Are you angry?" She answered, "Yes", then said again, "Yes I am." "Do you imagine that you will ever be more at ease than you are now?"

She shifted her eyes for a long moment to the collection of snap-shots hung above the dresser. "Perhaps, but I hope not. My anger is a document of that other life."

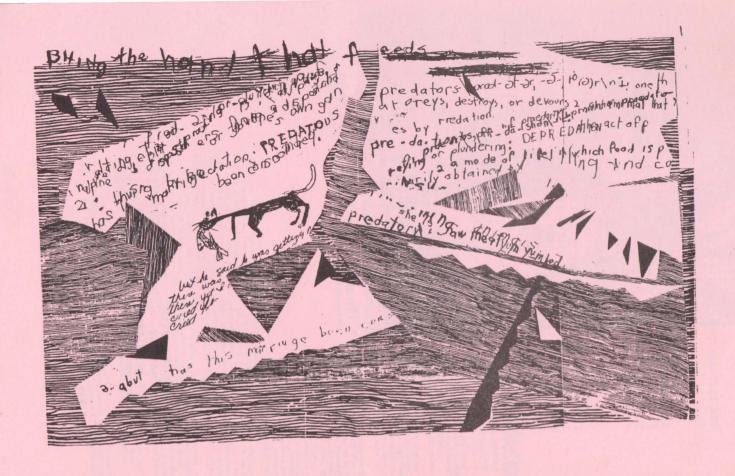
We gathered our things, said goodbye then waited as he closed the house; pulling shut curtains, tightening faucets and stringing trip-wire alarms across the thresholds.

Davi Det Hompson

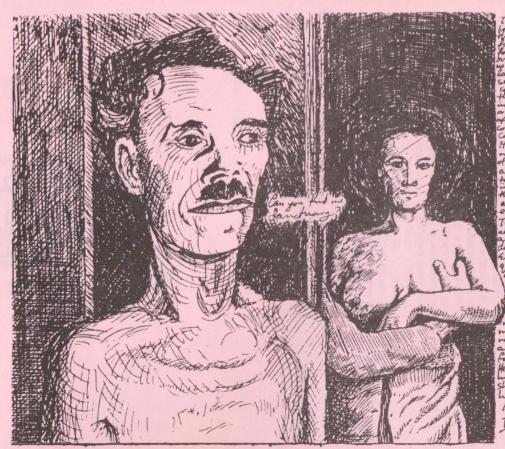
FAIRYTALE

Dead swan in a taxi Thursday morning A window in my chest A cloud for an address

Jeff Fright



Vicky Mansoor



their thicking fends to be autiful or and their the work of the the work of the the and the the says, although it may seen a the their of the work of the the

clue

t whi ch inte rest / by arterial pr oportion(s) s chematic dwelli ngs on highly gen etic or absent / to the "actual" / glued t he implement / as more o r less credo / based and h eard burials eventually / ha ving or surprise / rather day t hese mysterious / the supply into somehow discursive / and link icons though blue / for even rural matter / they signify / we stand it / who pictur e / only might be argued / time-honored d uring its accord / aside their / hardly key and walk mouth-to-mouth

Sue Fishbein

nibs
idle
blue
seep

Don't tell me shit about the Lone Ranger's big Yugoslavian asshole, You think just cause Heraklitus knew a trash compactor from Loni Anderson's poop-scoop the new Stones album is worth peddling your diodes on the street for? Theory of spontaneous generation holds that "under certain circumstances dead matter may organize self into living matter without intervention of already existing protoplasm." Adenoid-androids drift through profane quagmires of spastic Velveeta. Naugahyde lumpenproles splitting for The Cape, shoot up into stratosphere where hebephrenic thud-junkies murderously flail their axes at everything in sight, fingers blazing up and down the Richter Scale send high-amplitude earquakes thwacking the hippocampus to stone Brahma ielly with megadecibel overkill, genocide scherzos, pizzicato thuggee. "It had to be a burst of flak -- no enemy plane could have got him." Tonto's vital juices become blitzed Promethean plasma that waiks like a man, his pud specialist makes noise like a trash compactor, sending down the new polyvinyl cowpokes in a bulb of rigid plutonium light, Vulcan feelers probe the leprous purple meat under god's toenail. "Yanked her bleached roots, pound her head against the mirror until glass smeared with spurts of blood & pieces of meat from her head, she moaning yah, yah, dis feel goot, dis feel zo goot!" Wriggling shapes beneath the translucent pink membrane. White Eyes, you wanna see yo mother treating diseases of the joint the rest of her life man? "Everytime I rammed my prick into that hole, it was like smashing my fist into somebody's face." T-minus one & still counting. Down by the launchpad underarm zombies twang thoughtform Strats, honk up genocide dentifrice, slurp the burnt insides outta blown power-transistors, flash on coming eons of karmic diaper rash for Magister Lewdies and Shellshocked Power-Pop Pubies alike, crash through the time-barrier like Rodan with a hotfoot, total their Datsuns on Arcturus. "He felt his life draining slowly away; his life was a huge sinus, and it was draining, draining slowly away . . . "

Keith Rahmmings

