

THINGS TO BUY IN A FOREST

Metal objects,
rings, very old pieces of steel,
a flat nail.
Smooth rocks,
an antique.
Things you save but can't find a place for,
the altimeter from a B-45.
Pictures of your best friends,
a picture of your wife.
Several poems.

"Day After Day ..."

"South Vietnamese troops
have invaded Laos."

-- a news bulletin

Austere from days in the kitchen,
my wife drops meat into grease
and tries to define where
one starts or the other stops.
The war has taken nothing she needs.
She toys with the meat
and watches the grease spread.
She does not understand
her own need for expansion,
to move the meat around,
or to grasp the fork in her hand
and slam it home against the walls.
These things would work, except,
on the edge of the meat
blood is boiling and flowing
to the side of the pan.

-- R. Kuntz

El Cajon, CA

Packaging Dishes

Wrap up each dish in newspaper
so they won't make a noise
when they're moved.