

The Screw-On Lid

the screw-on lid
of my quart bottle
just fell down
under the desk with the
roach poison
so i'll have to
drink the whole bottle.
i don't want to be
stiff when they find me.
i wish i had some way to
take pictures of all the cops
that come to my door
and say they are looking for a prowler.

-- Robert Head

New Orleans, LA

attempting new jersey

came home burning gas
like an eighty
year old memory rather feeble
almost
out debated
whether to stop at texaco
ah i'll get it in
the morning too many
worries right now magazine to get out
a few letters
to answer and a collection
of poetry mags for the good doctor could
easily lose myself
in mapless streetless
turning core of silence such magic in the
tinkle of tea can picture my grandmother
preparing english
broth let my problems
wait until after tea sit down and read
some blazek his poetry is
so american it
was written on the floor of a log cabin
but only in new jersey only in new jersey
new jersey
hear me you're where it all
started with your bogged marshes and your
lions on the
hills above the rutherfords with
your six mile cities and lake studded
few parks your numerical housing developments

sitting like desks thousands
and thousands
of desks your acme markets and the parking
lots behind the
acme markets your stick ball
sticks and all the broken fingers
from playing
with stick ball sticks your golden parkway
accident expressway
to those square acre city
dumps north of jersey city
but now
i hear the cosmic moving of my grandmother's
cotton nightgown
ah tea is served

supermarket

-- for elain

i hate taking her
to the supermarket she gets
away from me in the melons and surprises me
in front of the
check out counters where she
french kisses
me before everyone usually
this angers me makes me
feel like lifting
weights but occasionally when the kiss
is like
fruit i'll smile and let it go

-- Robert Carande

Ona, WV

Quest

I asked a man
about death
and he said he could contribute
nothing except
his life.

We admired the legs
of a passing girl.

I asked him
about life
and he said