

BlazeVOX 2k9

Fall 2009

Ed Makowski

the baby wakes up, crying

sitting on a toilet

shitting out of my ass

third time already

4am, leaving in

ten minutes to

beat Chicago

going

to see an aunt

while she dies

since we didn't

when she wasn't

Estate Tax

a quarter
is comparable

to the rip in my pants

but nowhere
near as
expensive

the parking garage wanted \$4
to park my motorcycle
and twenty five cents
for car drivers

it used to be \$.25
for 1/4th of an hour
on the street meter
but that's been substituted for
ten minutes

Gentrification's been a trendy word lately
that concept where
people with more money
decide
they Now want to be
where they Didn't want to be
before

My city is being more cosmopolitan
while embracing it's history
so they built a statue,
a bronze Fonzie,
where no one goes

Fifty years ago in my city
we razed The Black Neighborhood
to build a two mile freeway spur
which was since dismantled

For forty years
we got to the road out of town
fifty six seconds faster

Now nobody goes down there
except a traffic jam of seagulls
shitting on everything
and no one charges them
rent

gloves

We'd always ask m'daddy

fer a pair'a shoes

an' he'd tell us

“Once you wear shoes

y'always gotta wear shoes.”

so he'd never git us'iny.

We go aroun' barefoot

an'at was jus' fine.

Same's reason I don' wear gloves.

I don' care how heavy dey makin'iss

cement block,

Y'all wear gloves'n

y'all gotta wear'm.

I don' wear gloves'n

I don' gotta wear'm

When ya

let sum'n

er

sumthin

else

do fer ya

ya stop knowin how

ta do fer

yerself

Same's reason I still sleep on'a floor.