

# BlazeVOX 11

Winter 2011

Ed Makowski

## **Peanut Portrait Gallery**

In the frenzy  
to inflict trophies  
and christen all else  
failure

from smug armchairs

we neglect noticing  
that the “also rans”

*Ran*

## Butt Naked

During Civil War  
tribal warlords battled for control

One was called  
“General Butt Naked”  
because he fought entirely naked  
wearing shoes.

Butt,  
for soldiers,  
recruited heroin addicted  
pre-adolescent  
boys

Before battles he'd  
select and capture  
a young child, then  
using a machete

open an incision  
tracing the child's spine.

While his fighters took turns  
drinking the blood of the innocent  
Butt Naked's fingers  
penetrated the wound and  
returned squeezing the  
extracted heart of the child

Then, General Butt Naked  
portioned the heart,  
which he and the boys  
ate with their fingers  
before stripping naked  
and running into battle.

Battle consisted of raping, maiming,  
soccer ball beheading, and  
eating the uncooked flesh from  
the bones of the vanquished.

Life continued  
and ended like this  
for years.

In the late 1990's  
as civil war ran out of breath, General  
Butt Naked was visited by Jesus  
and became a preacher.  
His name is Josh.

**Brian, 23, National Huntington's Disease Conference 2011**

We come from Nashville.  
'This the first I been out the house  
in a while.

I cain' go ou'side much alone  
cuz er'body think I'm a drunk'an  
no one talk to me 'less I  
talk to them, an then  
I gotta explain I got a disease.

Easier now, though  
since I's got diagnosed an'  
we know wha's wrong. I's adopted  
and doctors didn' figure out  
til I's 19 year old.

Disease started when I's 7.  
My parents always tol' me I's possessed.  
'They tell me I got  
demons'n spirits in my body.  
'They say  
that I's evil, that I got the devil in me

but I's just a kid  
and I never know  
what I  
done  
wrong.

## The Ant

Every day I find  
an ant. a single ant  
somewhere in the house.  
just one.

I'm beginning to consider  
it may be the same ant

Some days climbing the sides  
of the bathtub. Others crawling  
near the trashcan. Often standing  
still, wagging antennas  
above the kitchen sink.

I wonder, this ant and I,  
if we're destined this way  
like lovers  
waking

every day  
surprised  
by the same  
confrontation.

## Annually

more Americans  
visit the  
Mall of America

than  
the Statue of Liberty,  
the Grand Canyon,  
Old Faithful,  
The Capititol Building,  
Cancun,  
Yankee Stadium,  
voting booths in Minnesota,  
and Disneyland  
combined