

Fall 2018

Peake McCarthy

Hold the Love

Is that all there is? Anticlimactic... with pain as a sour side No warning - of what it is or how it will end Is that how it is for everyone? Is that all there is?

Yearning for more, I'll repeat mistakes I don't know what it is Which must mean my oblivion stretches to all things To the next step, to where life goes next This short, strange jackhammering cringe -That's not even how to put it -I'm not even fit to say what it is -

I'm stupid for not knowing that's all there is,

He raises a hand and my Heart leaps - it knew it would be touched, It knew that wasn't all there is -Out of my bone and skin and through the air. It comes close to colliding With his harmless grasp but it ... Aimed too high. His hand lands miles away.

Leaves me with a mark Of five red fingers And a heart dirtied by the floor. Someday I -

Hammered & Angelic

Hammered and angelic Eyeliner smeared where The tears dripped yesterday How I wish I were a bead of sweat So that I may feel her Cheek's soft skin. Her laughing celebration finds my ears Even over the music she loves As her launched white ball spins Around the rim before Falling Into the tenth cup. Her nose is blue from snorting my prescription. I have winner But I'm not ready My vision is unfocused when I'm Not looking at her. Her mouth's left side raises to a smirk When she sees me at my spot. Grinning and gorgeous, She takes her first shot.

Chelsea, Manhattan

I know you'll wish You never got me started I only ever write For the broken-hearted The ones who talk too loud But try hard to please And think that love Is getting on their knees. They felt too much And found out too late That if you try hard enough You'll still never be straight. Then suddenly they harden And their lipstick darkens Your woman's neck I kiss I suck I peck I implore you young girl In yourself don't lose faith One day your beloved You'll meet at thirteenth and eighth

<u>No Lyft</u>

It wasn't clear that I was closed Until you ripped me right open While your dancing fingers did the same With the buttons down my front Dissolved that stubborn wall Letting love flow freely through my blood Your tongue shattered my myth That no one so illuminating Would shine on me again - -And in the light I hopped a different train Nothing will carry me from your shape Love you, fuck you, choke you, hug you Let me open you, and all you contain Then let me surround you, to end the game

Sonnet for 33

I feel cobblestone beneath my feet And her coffee brown hand on my heartbeat Even when alone in velvet train seats. Because every day I can't help but keep The dirty love of nights within me deep — Nirvana transcending even through sleep.

Bravely dive into brown eyes and see sweet Timeless music your soul and self will meet. Beauty lay down with me, come on to me. Rolling honey hills soften the ache deep Stopping the pain that would otherwise creep. I dress in your silk, you dress love on me.

The far off break in this heavenly beat Will lose to fond mem'ries, so I won't weep.