

ONE YEAR IN A PAPER CINEMA

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June 21.

purple.
the impact on Nora.
the secondhand night
chronicles her darkness —
darkness as friend,
as memory keeper,
as waiting lust.

*the dark I want
mimics the ocean,
that little beautiful.
I want a harbor stick
in a cool, rocky place.*

June 22.

once upon a distinguished gentleman —
in Mexico this was, in the sun —
Carlito stood waiting
by the water's edge.

*I had a run
with the wild girl.
I had a run.*

June 23.

in the beginning
we made monsters.
in that measured hell
around the corner,
the widow prayed
for grace and money.

June 24.

what's love got to do with Lolita?
she wears Prada like the girl next door
wears her mother's diary:
alone.

June 25.

Juliet believes in dark chance.
she believes this
is no world for cradles —
where the spirits
of old men rise
in a crimson tide,
and the grave
is but a sequel.

June 26.

meet the Glimmer Man,
with his trophy balls.
the champ —
on the roof he calls
till dawn. *live free*
or die sudden.
shall we resurrect America?
shall we dance
a redline dance
into wild extinction?

June 27.

how quickly he knew too much.
40-year-old Dave
sings the blues as flirting
waves from the rear window.
a Tokyo bus drifts away.

it's just Dave
and his decisions now.
all those candles die —
that *can't hardly wait...*
that *get married*
or *sin tryin'...*

and then the fast line
of exit ultimatum.
no family waits at home
for the postman.

his plainsong wedding
is a dead mutant reef
of incredible expectations.

June 28.

Matilda, beware
an outbreak of saving
from righteous kings.
beware the patriot
dog soldiers in black;
the good witch in the castle
twitches, too. she hears
meaning as a hammer
of protection,
protection as a measure
of national life — larger than
kings or even fair gods.

June 29.

the grand fool's made a life of
shouting fire inside holes.
in the heat,
in the dead serious,
he pledges the greatest
show on okie noodling —
the last chance to witness
his very own meltdown café.

June 30.

once upon a time
in Moulin Dewey,

the blonde action opens
on a hostile bunny —
her unthinkable hair
happens in 3-D.

who is running
this hybrid city —
Dr. Seuss or Beethoven?

Paris on pills.

July 1.

there's no way out.
a predator hunted
this gang of 13
high school strangers
to the fog of a lake house.

they are shouting
guns!
blood!
pretty!
and *baby!* from the chest,
from the belly
of the fever beast.

July 2.

midway to the center of the matrix,
Troy (the erotic traveler)
finds the object
of his desire — his heaven —
The Wizard of Oz and Carrie
caught in a game of frantic twister.

July 3.

dude, where's my bunny?

analyze that.

July 4.

the patriot returns, broken.
it is a long journey,
far from crimson,
far from fire and ruins
to the more intimate
and stranger underworld
that is New York, and home.

July 5.

I now pronounce the breakup.
recall independence?
recall calm friends?
between love and the shaft
we learn a death sentence — goodbye
cursed with a sweetheart voice
to cellular apocalypto,
anywhere but here.

are we a mess yet?
no, we are the wolf.
this mask is cut
from the road.
it is a mockery
of ice and sand.

July 6.

*dear diary —
I am the click
of ice and shots.
enchanted by streets,
I own night.
I step into a ghost town
Manhattan.*