

## Spring 2011

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rom Apparition Poems

#547

Spirit melts, leaving butter particles strewn along leaf-veined avenues—how absurd, that it should be in poetry, hiding there like a cat in a dry bath-tub, like water in a drain, like so much dark moon.

The traces of this woman, who is a woman, go all over the world, as I don't objectify what I have no need to objectify. Can you guess who she is? Can you guess why I would need to write in code so that all the little poets don't place me in brine vats? I heard him say all this, and let me tell you, it was sickening. Haven't we heard how bodies in text are obsolescent? This is where I jumped in, and I am the final eye, that sees all. Black and white impulse, red veins. Pleasures.

Poor Schopenhauer's axioms: all in the will is a fight to beat other wills. I see him in his meager room, his will bent not to do much, save himself the trouble of fighting these ineluctable battles, but not able to refrain from eating, breathing, shitting, fucking, all those simple acts that are will-to-survival, but Arthur casts himself into a future of power, not knowing when it arrived it was to be a crass joke, ended with face in turtle soup.

Here's where shifts (red shifts) happen in perspective, I thought, slopping dark meat onto my plate, here's where angles converge to put me past the nest. General laughter over pictures, womblike spaces, but I was in hers as I was in with them. It hurts, but he's dead, I never met him. It's a shame, I never met him. Blood moves through air: between her, me, them— leaves on concrete.

What words get sent up on sharp frequencies are fractious, bent from pain, Hephaestus in iron-groans, what goes up sticks around, so that base/top get covered,

all things resonate like pitchforks, tweaked by conductors before their final, triumphant performance for a hall empty of bodies, filled to capacity.