"Green persimmon"

Universal

Green persimmon

Before the first time — but never again — there was a sign. She had been upstairs, in the little ~~was standing on the 2nd floor of the house~~ foreclosed house, looking through a bedroom window. Down below the trees were leaf heavy ~~in July~~. 101 degrees but dry. Still, opening the windows would freshen the room that had been empty for a year. It took her a while — a tap here, a yank or two — but finally she managed to raise the window all the way and leaned forward to see what was left of the garden below. From her position in the window the trees hid most of the backyard and she stretched a bit to see beyond their heads. Suddenly a giant hand dug down into a sack and threw fistfuls of petals into the air. Or so it seemed.

Butterflies. a trembling ~~flock~~ ~~[illegible]~~ highway of persimmon colored wings ~~[illegible]~~ cut across the treetops ~~seemed to go on~~ forever ~~and~~ ~~when~~ then disappeared.

Later, sitting under the trees in a rocker he came by.

She had never seen him before and did not recognize any local family in his features. He was walking ~~quickly~~ as tho late for an ~~[illegible]~~ appointment, using this yard as a short cut to some place else. When he turned and saw her, he smiled raising a palm in greeting.

"Hello." she called.

He altered his direction and moved

came near to where Doreen (she) sat.

"You from around here?"

"Close by," he said, but he did not move his lips to say so. He needed a hair cut.

"I just saw some butterflies a moment ago. Up there." She pointed. "Orange-red they were. Just as bright. Never saw that color before. Like what we used to call Coral when I was a girl. Pumpkin color. Came out of nowhere."

She wondered, at the time, what on earth she was talking about. And would have stuttered to a polite close - about the heat or something - except he looked so interested in what she was describing. His overalls were clean & freshly

ironed. The sleeves of his white shirt were rolled above the elbows ~~And~~ His forearms, ~~was~~ smoothly muscled, ~~And gave~~ made her reconsider ~~her first~~ the impression she got from his face: that he was underfed.

You ever see butterflies like that?

He shook his head ~~but~~ ~~Considering~~ ~~evidently~~ ~~thought~~ ~~apparently~~ but thought the question serious enough to squat down on the grass.

~~I don't mean to in~~ Don't let me interfere with where you're going. It ~~I~~ was just ~~well~~ my Lord such a sight."

He smoked ~~again~~ sympathetically and looked toward the place she had ~~[illegible]~~ pointed to. When he ~~got~~ stood up, ~~an~~ brushing his overalls, although he had not sat down in the grass, and said. "Sat all night if I pass through here?

Of course. Anytime. Nobody lives here now. The people who built it lost it. Nice, though isn't it? We're thinking about maybe leasing it from time to time. Her husband — she was babbling she knew, but he seemed to be earnestly listening. Carefully he listened every word.

At last she stopped — too ashamed of her silliness to go on — and repeated her invitation to use the short cut.

He thanked her ~~finally~~

and left the yard, moving quickly ~~through the between the~~ ~~through~~

through x and between the houses beyond.

She never saw the persimmon twigs again, ~~but~~ the nonetheless did return. Lowery kept forgetting to ask Steward (or

anyone else) who he might be. The youngones were getting harder to identify and when friends or relatives paid visits to Ruby - ~~that were~~ they did not always attend church and get introduced to the Congregation.

She could not guess his age and supposed he was ten or more years younger than she and maybe that alone made her keep his visits secret.

Thing was, when he came, she talked nonsense ~~about~~ & ~~but important~~ ~~nonsense~~. Things she didnt know were on her mind; pleasures, worries that unrelated to the world's serious issues. Yet he listened - intently to what ever she said.

By a divining she could not explain, she knew that once she

asked him his name, he would never come again

Once she fed him (~~some~~ stuffed cabbage) and he ate it all

More and more ~~frequently~~ she found reason to ~~stay~~ remain on St. John Street, not hoping or looking for ~~her friend~~ him but content to know he had and would come by there for a chat a ~~snack~~ bite, cool water ~~on~~ a parched ~~hot~~ afternoon. Her only fear was that someone else would mention him, appear in his company, or ~~have~~ announce a prior claim to his friendship. No one did. He seemed ~~to~~ hers alone

So the night of the argument
with the young people
at Mt. Galaxy ~~Olenny~~
~~opened~~ stuck the key in the
lock of the little foreclosed
house, hoping to sit
with a glass of iced water
~~maybe~~ read some verse or a
few psalms and collect her
thoughts on the matter
in case her friend passed
by in the morning.

yes argument Brow ① Cross ②

enough — for any age or generation.

Specifying it, particularizing it, ~~the~~
nailing it down was pointless
the only nailing ~~to remember~~
needed to be done
had already ~~taken~~ place. On the
Cross.

She'd ask her friend.
Wasn't that so? ~~Or say so to~~
And then tell Olene

Typed Olene

✓ → Door to door. ~~(i.e. the 4 women are~~ They are all assembled)

Seneca

~~Little~~ Child went from door to door. Knocking. Banging. Sometimes just looking in an open one.

Seneca. 14 when she arrives

→ Doesn't smell the gas.

Had been lonely at first – when he saw more sky than earth. Grass to his hips. Hard earth below.

Steward

Walked then hit a wet patch and knew there was a ~~secret~~ hidden lake or river. Land would irrigate easily and make good ~~gas~~ field crop.

He could taste the trout

His father had passed ~~through~~ a white town (i.e. Violet Cross) as a boy (1907) before dry laws that had 8 ~~mill~~ killings a week.

See "Blood Lover Book"

Steward believed God" cut down back-biters" was impatient with fools and rambling men.

✓ → Olive "Look out Gwail. Peek's looking for you."

Opening her package from Connie's house. Unpacking it. Then recollecting the preparation of food for the Mother Superior's

she had to be shipped

walk. (Hurried because ~~the body had to go~~
grisly (in age) (Roger). Remembers her from earlier)
The women who go (She, Honey and Sweetie)
but take food from others. (Tho' there is
no "crowd" to eat it.") Oline worried about
K.D., Annette etc. Also about the Queen Sts.
Just five or six sullen teenagers - but the little
ones who liked to play there were menaced.*
**** Maybe have more church events there?
She wonders. The way it was when they
1st arrived. Even Sunday School lessons.
Before the Church (the 1st - the Baptist) was
built (and the rest later). Baptisms were in
the sweet water creek - returned then for
drying and prayer to the Queen. Now the
~~church had an inside~~ baptism pool was inside.

*** First? Jet black with red fingernails had been
painted on the walls. No one claimed responsi-
bility but more shocking - the likely ones refused
to paint over or erase it. That refusal stunned
everybody and - [although ~~some women~~ Kate & Pat Best took a
bucket & Basilo, Bleach and brushes and finally got it off]
~~the~~ five days passed with the men in a rage
forbidding anyone but the teenagers to re-
move it. The ~~[illegible]~~ characters fingers - red - tipped and
thrust sideways (not up) ~~[illegible]~~ hurt more
than a blow - ~~[illegible]~~ and lasted longer. ~~than~~
A wound? a nagging pain that persisted even after
Pat Best and Kate
When Ray ~~[illegible]~~ (and the others Bestry and
Calvin the girl) ~~was to ask~~ asked for a meeting town. (Which
no one had done in years), it was quickly
agreed upon. Everybody believed the offending
people would apologize and offer some pledge

* Frank Sirles found reason to be
Thud. including Annette & Billie
Marie. K.D. much older, was hanging
around these too.

** Ray - Dusty - Calvin and want to
make room into a nudging
national/racial identity = "Black".

to clean up the site. Instead, they came with a plan — of their own. ~~the~~ A plan as (we more) destabilizing than the fist. They wanted to give it a name. Have rallies (see above.) and talk about ~~Bo~~ S being black. and pretty or lovely

Of course, but what was there to talk about? What did it mean? That whites were mean? hateful Any news there? That Negroes were X. Well, some. But something more and else they wanted to say. Nothing to be disagreed with except a kind of accusation. against white folks yes, good. but implicitly against them, their parents grandparents — all ruling adults as tho' (1) nobody knew it (b) they alone did know and (c) there was a new and more manly way to deal with whites. Not ML's way. Not MX's way either (although that was closer) but some ~~crazy~~ African type thing full of new words, ~~and~~ new colors, combinations, and new haircuts. ~~Wh~~ Suggesting that out-smarting whites was craven — they had to be fought, rejected, confronted. Because the old way ~~but~~ was slow — limited to a few and weak. This ~~tate~~ last swole Deek's neck and had him ~~shorting~~ blowing quail ~~into~~ ~~just~~ to keep ~~from~~ his ass from exploding. out the heart of the world be back soon with a string of them. And ~~H~~ Unwraps the waxed paper. & pours contents into hot water.

D — What's that?

O — Nothing.

D — Can I have some of it?

O — No. How many?

D — Six. Gave six to —

O. (C.D) go with you?

D. No, why?

She would rerun ~~pick up~~ ~~When~~ a platter ~~Hair ratted~~ ~~his~~ ~~bodies spread~~ of brown the tender halves.

So put out the sweet potatoes now. then ~~H~~

O. He's hard to find these days. Up to something, I expect.

D. Like what?

O. Can't tell

D. ~~Well he can't draw worth nothing.~~ Chasing a little tail, I expect. Some gal dragged herself in town and was staying out to that Cannery.

O. Why you say "dragged"? ~~She could be~~ Why you have to say "dragged" like that? You see her?

D. No. But others did.

O. And?

D. And nothing.

O. So don't say "dragged."

D. Okay. Okay. She didn't drag in (laughs) She floated in.

O. What's that mean?

D. Heard her shoes had 6 inches heels

O. Six? Deek, you're lying.

D. And flying.

Chull off she's at the Cannery, she must be all right. then.

D. You ~~Just~~ partial to those women. out there. How many of em now. Four?

Grace
Connie
Mavis

O. Three. The Mother died, remember?

D. Oh yeah. That's right. Roger got to use his big new van.

~~O. Amed~~

O. Ambulance

D. Gave us 3 payments in advance, too. I hope he keeps it up. ~~Spent the part of 5~~ Not enough hospital mortuary business around here to justify the expensive van like he got.

O. Is he hurting?

D. Not yet. But Senie his business depends on the sick and the dead. I'd quit soon he went bankrupt.

O. Deek!

D. That's the one in trouble.

O. You keep saying that. How come?

D. Mail order.

O. What?

D. You all go the X, don't you? when you want x or x. And if you don't you order out of a catalogue. Where's that put him

O. He never has much on hand. And what he has been there too long.

D. But that's why! if he can't move his inventory he can't buy new.

O. He used to do all right

D. Yeah. 10 years ago. People coming back from — marrying one another. Farms doing O.K. ~~Every body business in their flop~~

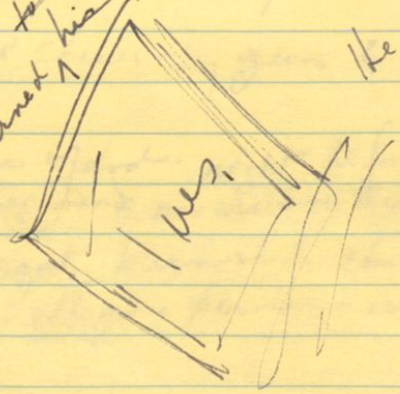
Stet. ~~when farming~~ ~~Farmer's all right~~ / / falls. Now, well.

O. I don't understand, Deck.

D. ~~If~~ I do, you don't need to

73
49
26

Shooting well had organized get him, the and returned his ~~opponent~~ to him



the gun

He ~~started~~ ~~shot~~ shot and hit himself of last notes

remembered something about

683
1060

Friday the 23rd

Architecture

~~The~~ Good morning ~~[illegible]~~ He felt much better. now.

Coffee The right color. The right temperature and later today his Guest would melt in his mouth.

Phyllis Wagner

MEN

She thought it

Sunday A.M.
The Cat
Nick & Valerie
Kitty Hart

Quaint.
Hitler Deck cards
not 3 but
aces

73
49
26

Shooting well but organized get him things to their and returned his ~~[illegible]~~ places

Yes.

The got shooting ~~morning~~ hole ~~[illegible]~~ ~~shoot~~ shot well and not himself of last nite

Remember something about

683
1060

73
49
26

Shooting well had organized him, things to him and returned his ~~[illegible]~~ things to their places

the got ~~morning~~ shooting

He ~~[illegible]~~ had ~~[illegible]~~ shot well and rid himself of last notes

remembered something about

683
1060

p. 5 dashikies - Sageant and Menus
ties - Sleek and Roger
macramé - made by ~~Grace~~ Devine
p. 6. K. D. dreaming - stalking Grace (wedding to Annette)

Kitchen - Roger / ~~Sargeant~~ and Jeff p.v. (1)
p. 10 - Devine's fedora and statues from cellar
Seneca's letter from her sister (Message to phone)
? Mavis - Calendar got from Connie 1963
Mavis' Twin's ~~shoes~~ teething ring ✓
& baby shoes for 4's baby

Bedroom
~~Bigboy~~ p.v. Sargeant &
5 Children

Fleet
p. 11 - rocking chair full of dolls belong to Devine
2 children - 3 graves

Chapel
Harper (Methodist - drug store) 6 children

Menus
p. 25 - palm cross - Easter service cross he'd gotten from Grace / Gigi ✓

Cellar
Morgans 2 (dead)

K.D. 1 (maybe)
p. 49 - pale blue pantsuit - note later ✓

p. 84 - Elder state auditor 192-
Big Daddy - county clerk - 1919

p. 103 - Dice & chewing gum ?

* Sleeping in the yard night before (so women did not miss the men & nor children their fathers)
\# lean elegant burnished church at wedding - Pulleam's sermon - not Mesner's. ✓

With the warning scene - discovery of the bodies of the frozen family ✓

*

1975
-16
1959

16 ~~15~~ year old daughter of Milton Prudlove.
who is sorry that in 1959 under the sway
of his flamboyant wife Missy and 2 6 packs
they had so misnamed the baby girl.
Now he practised law (~~with~~ while she left on
~~to~~ ~~let~~ the artist inside her could unfold)

Delivery

extended trips to New Mexico where the

"Liv?"

for here Room full of dolls, ~~makeup~~
and Hollywood toys: an industry video game
pin ball machinery ~~E-track~~
He does not see packed suitcases

His practice is their but two clients — outrageously
rich black entertainers — were enough to ~~keep~~
~~him~~ allow ~~the~~ extravagant ~~gifts~~ gifts for his princess
had to do was keep ~~them~~ both of them on top and
hope they wouldn't fuck themselves to death.

Her 16th birthday present a new Toyota
w/ built in Sight Track

On her way to Santa Fe to see her mother. with "old" (bayfriend!?)

→ not pretty but
→ propertied & very well dressed
→ older bayfriend elopers (28 years old?)
very much in love
New Mexico accident
finds "item": bayfriend is 34 not
28

D'Argent

DOOR

Ellen

Fr

She is much more interested in D's mother
than in her.

loves D'ler

dialogue only

himself gracefully
wheelchair navigated ~~himself to~~ through the entrance door
~~angle~~ — only slightly annoyed by ~~the~~ the inconvenience of its
designs.

The crying woman had flipped.
~~At that moment~~ Seneca helped
~~out, as he'd she do~~ the women

TCM

1973
1954

1973
1954

1973
1958

p. 193.

Curled up at the bus stop in a molded plastic seat, Seneca tried to shake this.

She kept it there, imagining her heart stuttering faltering trying to get back on line all the way to the bus stop. There she curled up in a molded plastic seat and surrendered to the wails caroaming in her head. Alone, without witnesses, the woman had let go her reason, her personality and shrieked like a gull, a cow whale, a mother wolf - for all the world like a gull, a cow whale, a mother wolf (feathered, hooved and furred whose flesh the rest ate) but whose young had been snatched away.

Her hands were in her hair; her mouth wide open, her face drenched.

Seneca fled, short-breathed and dry-mouthed, from the porch.

At the station, she bought peanuts and ginger ale from the vending machines and was immediately sorry since she really wanted sweet - not salt. She stowed the packet of nuts in her pocket and sipped the ginger ale.

Nightime - and the waiting room was crowded. Most of the children were asleep on laps and seats. Adults fingered tickets, counted money, and murmured to each other. Occasionally walking by the schedules posted behind glass. (1) Four teenage boys with (2) A man in a grey chauffeur's uniform strolled the floor as the

stuttering caps on their heads, laughed uproariously back by the vending machines. (3) A beautiful man in a —

202
189
13
1

1 = 12
190
67 = 189
65
202
14

as crowded as a morning commuter stop.
9
x
65

When she jumped off the back of the 1st ~~truck~~ ~~she had~~ ~~taken~~ truck she'd done anything she had not been told to do.

Well cared for in ~~the~~ ~~two~~ both of her foster homes - even loved - but once she never cried. Took responsibility, ate what she had shared ~~everything~~ what given.

(1)

looking for his passenger.

She had x hours before her bus left. And wondered if she should spend it in one of the movie houses. Seppica, The Sting and The Exorcist were the hot choices, but how sad to see anyone of them with Eddie's arm around her shoulders. Serena sighed but there was no danger of tears. She had not shed one tear since she found Jean's letter next to the house thermostat. TK.

The chauffeur stood in front of her and smiled.

"Excuse me, miss. May I speak to you for a moment?"

"Sure, I mean. Sure." Serena scooted over to make room on the bench, but he did not sit down.

"I'm authorized to offer you five hundred dollars for some complicated but quite easy work if you're interested."

Serena opened her lips to say complicated and easy? This eyes were cloudy gray, and the buttons on his uniform shimmered like old gold.

"I'm on my way out of here," she said.

"I understand. But the work won't take long. Perhaps if you'd talk to my employer — she's right outside — she can describe it to you."

"She?"

"Yes. Mrs. X. Step this way."

A limousine ~~[illegible]~~ throbbed under bright street lights a few feet from the station entrance.

When the chauffeur opened the door ~~Seneca [illegible]~~ the head of an amazingly beautiful woman turned to her.

Hello. I'm Norma Woods Fox ~~Let's talk~~ and I'm looking for some help.

Can I talk to you about it? ~~[illegible]~~ "What kind of help?"

~~[illegible]~~ It's okay, dear. Norma laughed, a warm tinkle.

Come inside ~~[illegible]~~ let me

Seneca hesitated

A warning ~~[illegible]~~ signal.

~~What do you think I am~~ What's the matter? Come. It's ~~[illegible]~~ cooler in here.

The door click was soft but weighty and Norma's Bal de Versailles was irresistable.

Something confidential, she said. ~~And~~ I need done by someone not from around here. My house ~~[illegible]~~ isn't far.

David will drive you back to the station - even if you decide not to help me. . . I'll pay 500 enough? I could make it more.

Nothing illegal of course - just private. You type? A little?

Only then did S. realize the limousine was no longer parked.

This is a lovely part of the world. But narrow minded if you know what I mean.

I wouldn't live anywhere else.
My husband ~~will he travel~~ —
doesn't believe me because I'm
from New Orleans, but I love it
here. Where are you from? Married?
~~You will like this~~

If I had a daughter
She'd be about your age. My son's
~~at Columbia (?)~~ at Rice.
~~Lots of people~~ It's only
Fox is away — that's my husband — that
I can get anything accomplished. That's where
you come in. — if you agree, I mean.
What I need done — only a ~~good~~ an intelligent female can do.
You don't wear lipstick do you? Good.
Your ~~mouth is~~ lips are lovely like that. ~~The~~

I need Clara — find an intelligent girl
please. ~~Not a~~ No farm girls or dairy queens.
He's very ~~sweet~~ Scotch. He found you. No
thank you! Oh dear digest peanuts
You must be starving. We'll have a
very good dinner & I'll explain the details.
Really secretary — but it's better ~~with~~ to have a
stranger ~~than~~ instead of somebody local. Are
those your own lashes? Gorgeous.
Clara do you ~~remember~~ know what's for tonight?
~~menus~~, no fish, I hope or do you like
fish? I ~~don't~~ think some chicken
fried might do the trick we have
beautifully fed poultry here. They eat better
than most people do

No, don't ~~put them~~ put them away. Give them to me. They might
come in handy. Who knows

in ~~Jo~~ geous rooms, with Gorgeous Norma
and food too pretty to eat.

Seneca spent the following 3 weeks
~~Seneca~~ in ~~the~~ an exquisite unlocked house

moving from peacock feathers to abject humiliation; from coddling to abuse, from caviar tartlets to filth.

The ~~pa~~ pain framed the pleasure ~~and the~~ gave it edge; the humiliation made ~~taking~~ surrender deeper more ~~more~~ tender.

Until ~~Lucius~~ Leon Fox ~~telepho~~ telephoned his immanent return.

Not Lost, ~~Again~~ in no but Alone. Again.

Norma gave her 500 clothes to Seneca. ~~A~~ cashmere

Promised to be back by Christmas. Left for the Bus Station

he buttoned extra ~~of~~ Leon of his the sunlight.

They did not speak.

Arriving the house.

But at the curb

he said "Oh

Holest guarantee

The question was not why but who. Was Rev. Pullam instructing Alec or Steward? Was he who behaved as though God were a business partner, directing his remarks to the young people, warning them for allowing the restlessness and disobedience to shape up before their lives collapsed in sullen ignorance. Or was he aiming at the parents? Most likely, thought he was bringing the weight of his Methodist education to bear down on large Richard. A stone to crush his colleague's ~~(mushy) pernicious~~ ~~fire-and-brimstone~~ message of ~~a~~ something he called self-activation. God as a permanent interior engine that ~~needed~~ once ignited roared, ~~—~~ purred and moved you — but if idling, weighed the soul imbalancing everything, ~~tipping~~ ~~tipping~~ it, she thought. Pullam was targeting Richard. That must be ~~whom Pullam was~~ because surely he would not stand before the bride & groom — an ~~invited~~ guest preacher ~~in a~~ asked to make a few remarks before the ceremony to a congregation made up of almost everybody in Ruby only a third of whom were members in Pullam's church, because surely he would not insult the mothers of the bride who ~~had suffered the~~ bore daily the misery of sick children tending and who had not only not chastised God for this knockout blow to everything they dreamed of

but whose southern seemed to increase ~~grows grows ity~~ ~~more thickness~~ as each year passed

(And although the groom had no parents living - ~~his aunts~~ (surely Fullbam did) not intend to outrage his aunts - to put their feet to the fire of those devout Christian women

for caring (too much maybe?) for the sole ~~young~~ male ~~who been part~~ in the family ~~that~~ would ever know now that Olive's sons were dead and Olivey had none ~~could have~~ and who had ~~not~~ not let ~~that~~ mourning tear them up ~~brother~~ or keep them from ~~the~~ kindness for either loss

fx | Surely not. And surely he was not trying to irk the uncles whom he had always seemed to admire telling them they belonged in Zion ~~not~~ not Calvary where they had to listen to the namby-pamby sermons of a man who thought children talk as if they had ~~possession~~ something important to say

teacher ~~advise~~ ~~wrong~~ letting

~~And~~ Who else but Richard Misner would feel the story of "God is not interested in you." or "~~Love is~~ ~~work you have to deserve love~~ ~~deserve love~~ wence from the burn in "cleave unto another of you want to - if you are not cleaving to God ~~the church~~ wide open to God

Story

Oregano scent filled the church - overwhelmed the ~~flower~~ arrangements ~~placed~~ at pew ends elegant and around the altar. Clumps of it ~~plants~~ grew beneath

2 oz chicken
1 cup rice
1 tomato

At eleven o'clock
The ~~open~~ windows were open to a
~~eleven o'clock~~ clamping sun. ~~in April~~.
April sky
~~Of weather corresponding~~:
with everyone's expectations wish for delight *
Plenty Good food at Olive's later
Music by there were the anyone who wanted to take it up: X on Olive's ~~piano~~ upright - the Men's Choir - X's solo &
The ~~press~~ of Good clothes
The ~~cries~~ Children sugar-drunk ~~drunk with sugar~~ snatched from the floor &
Wedding gift wrappings folded neatly for re-use
~~The~~ more of the families
and ~~an~~ ~~not~~ ~~yet~~ willing - to
the ~~animus~~ that had been insisting
between the up, ~~now~~ ~~over~~ the
maybe-baby the bride had not ~~been~~
acknowledged, publicly announced or delivered
→ooo

Steward engaged at as Verkere

a ~~no women~~ ~~some preferred~~ ~~Sunny~~ only hostess →

forgotten on on

Silk dresses and starched shirts forgotten as leaves against trees

Satan the grass

The pedaling ^ teenagers unable to hide their appetites

a dreamer boy on a mouth organ

* The ~~church~~ maple pews ~~was~~ burnished
to a X glow set off the ~~pristine~~ (spring)
white walls, the understated pulpit
The comfortable almost picket-fence look of the

rathing where communecants knelt
to welcome the spirit — ~~once again~~ one more time

Above the altar — high into its

in clear clear space — uncluttered
and unencumbered by any dissonant sign
~~mark or decoration~~ — ~~was~~ hung

a 4 foot cross of maple. No gold
~~tripped its~~ could compete
~~Competed~~ with its ~~strength~~ perfection — or
~~[illegible]~~ ~~supplement~~ increase
~~[illegible]~~ its

~~[illegible]~~ poise. — So there was none

~~for a representation of the body of~~
~~Christ in writhe or swoon~~

that
meadow in the sky

~~[illegible]~~

~~fate~~

~~a diminish the its~~
~~[illegible] thunder~~

filter "Miner's sermon" with hints from Spiritual.

No writhe or swoon of the body
of Christ could ~~diminish~~ its
lyric ~~simple~~ thunder.

So there was none.

bloat or
represent

~~The light accompanying the angels~~

or mint?

The women of Ruby did not paint their finger nails and wore no harlot's perfume ~~scent~~ so the light, falling through ~~accompanied by~~ rushes of lemon scent

~~promise~~ ~~made them dizzy~~ disturbed ~~them~~ the congregation made ~~them~~ it reel ~~with the expectation — promise of delight~~ in anticipation. Of plenty good food at Olive Morgan's house later.

→ 000

"... delivered"

Now they sat, as did Angie Flood, wondering what on earth Rev. Pulliam thought he was doing. Why cast a pall ~~Blunt the edge~~ ~~that's just after lemon~~ Olive's

Rogue mint

(2) taste of the roast lamb, ~~for~~ the lemon pies awaiting them

Demerrick the ~~mint~~ idea of ~~Old Smut~~ rogue mint ~~Pulliam~~ and phlox; ~~blunt their tail~~

(1)

(3) Derail ~~the peace~~ fray the harmony, the peace this marriage ~~brought~~.

10" to go a different character

For those who could see it, the groom's face was a study in ~~distance~~ travel.

64,000 | $200,000

Annie

"Solutions" provided by the assault.

* historical Narrative can be skipped - fathers and sons can bond without discourse

women can be managed (adored and disabled)

Restless brainwashed mother/women can stay put on pedestal

Children's problems can be ignored while search for (lone of) infants displaces them (i.e. the real problems)

*

p.23

place mat

(A) Chap one before "safety"

or during ~~that time~~ Each of ~~all~~ those generations ~~had taught them~~ as did their fathers

~~Each~~ man knew what lay out ~~there~~:

unmonitored and seething space without borders

~~where~~ random and organized evil ~~that~~

1890
1950

erupting when and where it chose, ~~E~~.

~~invading your without explanation or~~

~~Cars~~ where your very person could be annulled invaded or

Where your ~~without~~ ~~women~~ were ~~quarry~~ sport

your children ~~game~~ sport

where being alone was being dead

~~where~~ behind any standing tree ~~could hide a white~~ [behind ~~and~~

the door of any house humble or grand was a shot gun]

where congregations ~~were armed~~ carried arms to church

and ropes coiled in every saddle.

Now this place had become part of out there

Each man had been THERE OUT

~~To a man, each understood~~

Uncontrolled Public space not

in that unmonitored space w/o borders where evil

~~A door~~ randomness ~~acts~~ = random

or organized could break out anywhere at any time

Each man knew what lay out there.

(1) where even Good could be degraded into its opposite

like a ~~transposed~~ plant tr. to ⊼ soil

civility ~~degraded like~~

(2) where ~~your home~~ you could be invaded without explanation or cause:

where your women were guarded

your children game

where being alone was an invitation to being dead

~~like standing alone~~ inviting

a not standing free which hid a white

(3) where any standing free could hide me (a white?) behind the ~~door~~ door and have humble or grand was a shot gun.

(4) where people shook from church service

~~now~~ where congregations carried arms to church and ropes coiled near their saddles

Julian

b. ~~1927~~ 1937

67 "Mercy" 1967

37

30 d. 1975 at 42

75

37

42

Richard Mizner rose from his seat. Annoyed, no, angry he could not look at XX (Pillian) and let him see how deep the cut.

Throughout P's remarks he had gazed expressionless at the congregation

Now he looked at the couple standing patiently before the altar wondering whether they (each) had even heard or understood what had been laid on them.

Mizner had planned five or six opening sentences to launch the sacrament marriage rite, chapter by chapter them carefully around Revelations 19:7-9 sharpening the "meddling feast of the Lamb" carving it to reveal the reconciliation between two families that this matrimony (blest) signalled.

Adding Matthew 19:2 "So they are no longer two, but one flesh" to seal not only the couple's fidelity to each other, but the renewed responsibilities of Morgans and Fletwoods

He, however, did understand. And knew this view of his chosen work (as —)

more than a
was ~~a~~ deliberate assault. ~~It wasn't~~ and he
Suddenly (understood and) shared Augustine's
rage at the "proud minister" whom he
~~did not like~~ ~~to the devil~~ but actually
~~Ranked him~~ with Satan.

ranked ~~Ranking him~~ with the devil

What could he say now ~~to~~ ~~said~~ as
anodyne to ~~Pullman~~ the lethal poison
Pullman had ~~sprayed~~ ~~over~~ everything. Over the heads
~~the~~ ~~Spitatice~~ of men fighting their instincts
language came to mind ~~so~~ but not trusting himself to deliver it w/o
Minnie ~~moved~~ walked not to the podium anger or deep personal hurt
but to the back wall. There he
around the chair

P's words were an extension of the war he had declared on Minnie's activities with the group

Stretched, reaching up until he
was able to unhinge the cross that
hung there. ~~This~~ the carried it
to the alter and held it ~~there~~
before him. for all to see - if only
they would.

around the past the organ where Kate sat, the chair where Pullman did on

then

See ~~the~~ what certainly was the
first sign any human made: the
vertical line - the horizontal one.
As children (their fingers drew it in snow, sand, or mud.

- laid it down as sticks in dirt
- arranged it from bones on frozen
Steppes and wide savannahs
- as pebbles on ~~a~~ river banks
- scratched it on cave walls
and out croppings from ~~a~~ Nome to ~~a~~ the Canary Islands
The circle was not ~~it~~ - nor the parallel
~~It was~~ nor the triangle. It was

~~[illegible]~~ control ~~own~~ what they could and
crunch what they could not;
over the heads of women [~~recovering~~ not yet recovered
~~to [illegible]~~ from the ~~blows~~ to their]

ceaselessly engaged in civilizing
the predator

If children [ ] esteem upon learning
that ~~they~~ adults would not ~~be~~ regard~~ed~~ them as
humans until they mated.

not interested in you.

If the bride and groom frozen there
clasping hands hoping, desperate for
~~to~~ to be the surcease of their individual
agony. ~~in~~ this bondage

this mark that lay underneath
every other, this mark ~~that~~ of a
Standing human ~~at~~ poised to embrace
this mark ~~the~~ ~~the~~ displayed in ~~arrangement~~ placement of
~~the arrangement~~ ~~of the human face~~ the ~~HUMAN~~
human facial features

Remove it, as William had done,
~~from religion, and~~ and Christianity
was any & every religion in the world.
~~In~~ Everyone of those others was despite
supplicants begging from a
begrudging authority.

harried believers ducking fate
or dodging everyday evil!

the weak negotiating a doomed
trek ~~on~~ through the wilderness; the
sighted sipped of light in the
perpetual midnight of choicelessness

Without this sign, the believer's life was limited
~~praising~~
god and ~~fact~~ taylorsing ~~this~~ hits
~~was~~

But with it, ~~with~~ in the religion in which
this sign was paramount and foundational,
well- it was a whole other matter.
The ~~assassination~~ execution of this ~~single~~ one solitary black man
propped up on these two intersecting lines,
in a parody of the human embrace to which ~~the~~ he was

attached, # ~~the~~ fastened to two big sticks that were

so

So convenient, recognizable so embedded in consciousness as consciousness (having been the original sign) ~~making the ordinariness and~~ being both ordinary and sublime;

Simplicity

His woolly head ~~stay~~ alternately rising ~~and~~ falling on his chest, the slow of his, (midnight skin dimmed by dust, streaked by sweat, gone pewter in the hot dry wind

fouled by spit and urine

and finally, as ~~this~~ the sun sank in shame, and evening ~~enclosed~~ always sudden in that climate, swallowed him and the other death row felons, ~~perhaps (only)~~ until the silhouette of this sign ~~dissolved in the night~~ merged with the night sky;

as his flesh matched the night that covered them

Jerusalem light

This execution, out of hundreds,

marked the difference.
moved the relationship between God and man from supplicant and CEO to one on one. ~~Made~~ it ~~to~~ ~~from terror and abstraction to agency and concreteness~~.

The cross he hied was abstract - ~~the~~ the absent body was real. And both combined ~~abstract terror to material~~ ~~man~~ to ~~release~~ more ~~man~~ human beings from ~~marginality~~ mutiny in the wing to the ~~central~~ principal role in the story drama their lives (from backstage to the spotlight)

to the hands-on x
administration of their moral lives.

~~All of which~~ making it possible to respect — freely not in fear — ~~by the respect of~~ one ~~for~~ another which is what love was: respect.

All of which testified not to God! a peevish who was his own love

but to ~~a God~~ one who enabled and respected human love. not for His own ~~enhancement~~ glory — never. * ~~But for the enhancement of one man for another.~~ between

But Mesner ~~had no words~~ to say it ~~today~~ Could not speak calmly of these things.

So he stood there and let the minutes tick ~~and~~ + as he held the crosed oak in his hands. This was the sign: not only is God interested in you; He is you.

Would they see? Would they?

* loved the way humans loved one another loved the way humans loved themselves loved the ~~man~~ genius on the cross who ~~did~~ both. managed to do

Sugar turns the body's enemy and becomes what was craving

Suffocating - wants to get out -
Something gone - void. Thinks
it's K. D. Standing at alter knows
it is the baby.

?
?
?

K. D thinking:

hatred of Gigi

Fingering a ~~two~~ ~~opened~~ letter from Arnette?
↓ from among 12 - only one had he opened

agreeing to marriage (elevator)
argument with Billie Marie?

Arnette:

home from school depression
~~He~~ neither fell in love or got listlessly engaged
there. Steamed about sex w/ K. D and ↑
his rejection. Home again -

letters to K. D. every month
- married only the 1st year since he never remarried

Decidedly unattractive

Unarguably

No ~~question~~ and no

No ~~comment ever made~~ about

Sometimes ~~people wondered~~ a friend would wonder if ~~the~~ True Love was really ~~as unattractive~~ just plain ugly. ~~as they as the believed~~

No question, of course, that she was unattractive, but once in a while a friend would shrink and see her as actually ~~she seemed~~ revolting. The shrink would pass, quickly however, along with the friend's shame at having had such a thought, because the earrings that hung from True's lobes were 18 carat. ~~and her~~ the boots on her feet were handmade; her jeans ~~hand~~ custom made, ~~and~~ and the belt buckle on her leather belt TK

40
30
90
50
140

In addition, ~~She~~ True ~~had~~ drove ~~a~~ a red Tarpa with built-in 8 Track tape deck, and lived in a mag house with two servants.

Her father was a lawyer with a small client list but two more big-time crossover black entertainers. As long as he, Milton Truelove kept them at the top - he didn't need ~~a lot~~ to acquire more. He kept a look-out eye for young performers who might one day hit "The Charts"

Mavis
Grace
Seneca
True

It will Come

Unbidden (like ~~a godmother~~ > ~~guest~~?) → a phrase

[~~wild~~] strong enough cast a

(~~loud~~) to [shake – the] spell

no urging

~~sharp~~ Clear

~~shrill~~ (~~still~~) enough to ~~break~~ ~~sound~~ Shock the ~~(warm)~~

~~under a~~ the spell ~~mind~~ heart

~~Open~~ to harmony

toward

Bell

to turn

Yell

well

Yearning

Bliss

~~blast~~

~~last~~

~~blast a spell~~

~~cast a spell~~

It will come

unaided like the turn

~~set~~

of SUN ~~in~~ ~~valleys~~ thru hills

~~of~~ or stars in wheels

(of wordless song)

Bliss

a shoulder
bends like a
rose under your head

~~dancing~~ jeweled
~~crashing~~ like the feet of women
~~[on earth]~~
to rouse the earth to spring
dancing toward?

Shoulders
bloom as
roses
bear

When ~~the~~

[When] the jeweled feet of women
dance the earth ~~to spring~~
arousing
~~urging~~ it to spring

Between the
thorn and the rose

It comes. It comes.

Dreams ~~are~~ become the only waking

It will come

Unbidden

Like a phrase

Strong enough to cast a spell

Clear enough to ~~shock the~~ resurrect a heart's

~~with harmony~~ geometry

Bliss

It will come

Unaided

Like the turn of sun
through hills
or stars in wheels of
wordless song

Bliss

It comes

Profiles

~~Moving~~ Footing

Stationed Scale

Soft and Fading

in