

Emblems Of Suicide

(First Poem)

Crane--  
yr ol man  
musta bn a real bastid  
callin yu Hart

Hart--  
your green iceberg soul  
a birdsong single syllable  
crisp as a herald's voice  
on  
the birth certificate

Hart--  
you can't leap naked dear  
thru the forests of Cleveland  
showing off your tail  
to every dirty old kosmos  
that loafis along

Hart Crane--  
your father  
must have been real

(Second Poem)

I've tried to sell  
the goddam bridge for you  
but these people ain't fools  
want one made out of steel and threads  
and thrown over a river of some kind

I tried every trick in the book  
I even told them that your bridge  
is really an organ but they laughed  
who ever heard of a paper organ  
you can't get music frma paper organ

They won't even buy pieces of it  
it seems you can't wear your cutty sark  
it ain't no blat  
it ain't no bottle of whisky  
you can't get music frma paper organ

(Third Poem)

They tell me you didn't just  
drink a social martini  
but alcohol alcohol  
and sometimes hair tonic

They tell me you didn't just  
write love poems  
didn't juss didn't juss  
did you shave your legs  
save your pennies for nylons  
cover your mouth with lipstick

They tell me they tell me  
in Mexico City  
you peddled your leaf on public streets

They tell me  
you petaled your leaf on public streets

(Fourth Poem)

whit mn didnt break the bread loaf  
in to strips of sand/grass  
to destroy "poem"

in the begin "love"  
the boy attempts mn  
direction what rime meter not impo

bridges strain the hearts of cranes  
as the machines sing  
winter needs a good drubbing

myths is only attemption  
the mn attempts man

(Fifth Poem -- Orizaba)

in the gulf of april  
spit from a dead volcano  
you leaped without speaking  
your coat a lump of skin  
on the deck of the boat

-- Charles Tidler

West Lafayette, Indiana