

How To Make Modern Poetry  
Out Of Ordinary Materials  
Found Around The House

talk a great deal about being drunk last night  
and tomorrow night in fact you're smashed to  
the gills while you're writing the whole thing  
and here and there use fourletteranglosaxon  
people will be so goddam grateful to understand  
one word of it, they'll call you  
a genius

give explicit details about your heterosexual  
adventures everyone was wondering about you

allude often to obscure and mystical tomes  
(not books, tomes) quoting from them heavily  
in the original languages and don't worry if  
someone manages to translate they'll just  
think there is some psychological connection  
they're too stupid to figure out

everything is hopeless and ugly. use it.

capital(ize nothing and do not punctuate  
except for a liberal sprinkling of semi-  
colons in the middle of words it slows  
up the reader to the point of insanity and  
then man he's really with it

meter isn't hard to avoid but you've got to  
watch like the devil or cadences will creep  
up on you and for godsake don't rhyme anything  
it sounds contrived and those artificial  
devices man are like  
nowhere

don't cuss bigmoney it's already been done  
just mention with a cynical leer that you  
like payola as well as the next little creep  
caught in the big machine that's what THEY've  
done to you jack and you're bitter see  
and speaking of machinery use things like  
flywheels, pistons, fanbelts, the turn of

the screw in the forehead of the century  
and above all throw in THE BOMB every three  
or four lines

put  
each

word

on

a

separate

line

poetry is paid for (that's an inside joke)  
by the line besides it's very difficult to  
read

when you've done all this, describe your  
plumbing, the scum in the ditch across  
the road, the bastard next door, don't  
forget you're mad you love everybody that  
is you love mankind something terrible but  
you're mad, real mad at them because  
they're all a bunch of idiots too stupid  
to know when they're miserable

then collect a bunch of these poems and  
have them privately printed it's chic and  
what's more it's the only way and send a  
copy to your old english teacher, your  
ex-wife, assorted friends enemies and the  
unknown names in your old address book  
don't send one to me

-- Phyllis Onstott Arone  
Logansport, Indiana

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Current and highly recommended:

HERMES PAST THE HOUR by Judson Crews, published  
by Este Es Press, P. O. Box 1492, Taos, New Mexico  
USA (\$1.25).

IRON ARK, A CENTURY OF PROGRESS, ICARUS all by  
Kirby Congdon, published by Interim Books, Box 35  
Village Station, N.Y. 14, N.Y. (all for \$2.00).