

he was telling her  
and thought he might  
be touching her with  
the things he had to give  
her eyes tracing the lines  
the flies made in crossing  
and wondered what they would  
look like if they stayed after  
they flew away and he told her  
trying to say and most important  
to both of them she heard and nodded  
wondering if he ever polished his shoes  
because it didn't look like it and he probably  
walked in the rain because his sole turned up a bit  
on the edge and he said that somewhere he could not  
explain there was a kind of love and said her  
thinking how nice it would be to have some  
thing hot to eat right now and wondered  
about what was in the fridge and  
almost got up but he was saying  
he had only himself and he  
would try very hard to  
make everything work  
out like she wanted  
and she decided  
on celery and  
got some.

-- D. r. Wagner

### Profile

#### Central Heating

à Anne-Marie

what I don't like  
about central heating  
is that it comes on  
without you  
there's nothing you can do  
but play with the window,  
let fresh air  
be warmed over

she wanted a profile  
just a few lines  
she said  
of herself  
to hang on her wall  
she'd get the frame --  
just a few lines  
on her own wall  
she said  
over one cup of coffee  
and a tuna fish sandwich.  
that's what impressed me

-- William C. Dell

Upper Montclair, New Jersey