

Sucking up water
for a green crown

-- Judson Crews

Wharton, Texas

Roomer

I live in a house
with three animals
one has four legs
and wants to bite me
one growl and grimaces
from a t.v. chair
and one is all day
plodding
up and down stairs
mopping and dusting
and
cooking things with garlic
very anxious
to tell me
things
I don't want to hear
and to hear
something of me
to share
with the others
like a bone

Having Never Seen Snow

A fallen leaf
Arranges her petticoat
Awaiting the next tree

First Day

Some things
I know already
about this place
that at least
one tomcat
lives near the heating vent
in the basement
that the t.v. is
right under my bed
that they like cabbage
that they no not really like
negroes
coming to the door
for me
and that
the girl across the hall
watches the late movie
on Tuesdays
in her room

-- Kathryn Quick

West Olive, Michigan