Visit

As we drove away from the gas station
Where we asked for directions
I said "They must think we're crazy"
And Fred said, "No, he thinks we
Think he's crazy"
We almost lost our way
Getting there.
When we got there
Bukowski said
He'd lost $170 at the races
Neeli Cherry and Harold Norse
Signing autographs
Frances doing
All the folding
It was a strange atmosphere
Of speckled air
After awhile Fred lay back
On the floor and snored for a minute
The sound of it woke himself
Up
And a weird cat walked in
That's a wild cat Bukowski said
Lives off the land and
He went into the kitchen
Saying Neeli don't do anything
Don't scare that cat away
And came back with a dish
Of cat food
But that cat had gone
And later when it came back
It walked all around between us
Looking through all the rooms
"That cat is used to humans"
Somebody said.
Examined the cat food
Without touching it
"And that cat
Isn't even hungry"

Kafka Watches Me

I have no
Cockroaches in my
Kitchen
But Kafka stares at me
Over the sink his face
On the white wall
And to my left beside
The refrigerator I see sunshine
As a strange substance
And through glass

I have painted my refrigerator
Orange