

place it in the house
in some place where she'll
be sure to touch it
then go home
& sing butterfly songs
all night

COYOTE TRIES TO GET LAID

he was traveling along the sound
feeling horny
& seeing the women bathing
on the opposite shore
just made it worse

so he worked his mind
figuring what he might do
he decided to send his cock across
to see if it would reach
to fuck as many as he could
from where he stood

he got it up
& out into the water
but only half way across
it softened & the tide
carried it down

he moved to another place
& tried again
& again only halfway across
it softened & was carried
down by the current

he didn't accomplish anything
the girls who were bathing
finished
& he left
not having done what he intended
& still horny

SUCCESS

her name's up there
in mimeo-offset
in at least 5 little mags
her aunt
the head of the department

says she's quite good
and the next thing i know
she's in here
reading & grading my poems
mine are just slivers & shards
bits & pieces that don't fit
mole poems
written with my hands
turned bottom up
under the weight of the sky
she says they get a "B"
i think she's a vegetarian
and doesn't know that
they're Grade A like beef
to be ground round & consumed

KETCHUP IN KETCHAM

gene asked me
to lay a flower on his grave
which isn't much
just a rectangle of concrete
with the name
and a couple dates
close by a tree
with a blackbird
yelling & diving at my head
every time i tried
to get close enough to lay
the weeds i'd gathered
on the tombstone

i wondered whether
he was really laid away
down there
under that rectangle
or up in that tree.
i finally managed to get
the blossoms down
& left.

driving north out of town
i hit a dog
ran right under the wheels
nothing i could do
but hunt around until
i found his people
& deliver him
still alive at least,
then stop by the salmon river
to wipe the dried blood