

LOVE POEMS

the trouble with writing love poems
is when another love reads them
they tend to think they aren't
as loved as the former love

love poems are written with a fire
that burns away all sense of caution
what hurts & distorts & confounds
is when these poems are used
as some kind of irrefutable proof
of ties that no longer exist

the danger with writing love poems
is new loves never understand
why you ever wrote them

17: From 50:50

what I thought
was a big
pink & black butterfly
turned out to be a label
tied to the bottom of a bush
gardenia augusta it says
or golden magic

9: From 50:50

sitting on her porch
in late afternoon sun
with ASK THE DUST &
a cup of tea immersed
in neighborhood bird songs
it's a dead-end street
quiet except when someone
turns up the music loud
three houses often do this
as if the whole block
desperate to hear
their brand of sound
seldom is anything heard
worth hearing
but for the varied
& beautiful bird calls

just a piece of paper
fluttering in the wind

sometimes poetry is
a beautiful mistake

I kill my first spring mosquito
slapping my thigh much harder
than I meant to