

that's usually followed by  
an animated conversation  
between 2 women  
as though it were high noon  
there are cats & raccoons & squirrels  
back there  
sometimes they clash  
one tenant likes to warm up his engine  
early in the morning  
the fumes & sounds come right thru  
our bedroom window  
sleep around here  
is strictly hit or miss

M D

I was blocking a driveway for just a second  
while I ran into the apartment hallway  
in search of my passengers  
I never made it  
someone was already honking to get into the driveway  
there was nowhere else to go  
except into that driveway  
he followed me in & parked  
got out of his car  
& walked into the house  
now I'M stuck in his yard  
my passenger next door waiting  
a few minutes later he emerged with wife  
they got into the car & left  
I cancelled the call to the cops  
to have him towed from his own driveway  
the guy never said a word to me  
he had one of those Uncle Eph beards  
an M D designation on his plate  
made me wonder how he treated his patients

I UNDERSTAND THE QUESTION NOW

women want love  
men want respect  
kids want attention  
most people want lots of money  
animals want people to stay away  
pets want people to never leave  
plants want water  
& on it goes  
this guy who used to live with us  
until he died  
at the age of 25

had been deprived  
most of his life  
it made him old or wise or both  
before his time  
he would set you up  
by asking if you wanted something  
that he knew  
was important to you  
after you gave your assent  
he would smile & ask  
"How does it feel to want?"

#### ONE FINE PERSON

we rarely fight  
& when we do  
I generally start it  
she's very tactful & loving  
not suprisingly  
people tend to like her  
good things almost always come her way  
by contrast  
I'm an irritable prick  
who has brought her to tears a few times  
she's clearly the better person  
I'm trying my damndest to catch up

#### LET'S CUT THE ROMANTIC NONSENSE ABOUT BOGART

Louise Brooks knew him  
when he was Humphrey  
on the New York stage  
she also knew him  
when he was cultivating  
his Bogie image for the Hollywood press  
prior to High Sierra  
his first successful role  
he made many films  
no trace of BOGIE in any of them  
it took the screenwriting  
of John Huston  
& the direction of Raoul Walsh to set it up  
although his last wife was Jewish  
he didn't cancel his membership  
at the Westside Golf Course  
although the club was antisemitic  
when HUAC began investigating  
the film industry for communists  
Bogart & other actors flew to Washington  
to register their protest