

## THE TRADITIONAL SASE

Twenty days  
before his death,  
Bukowski sent  
three long poems  
accompanied by the  
traditional stamped  
self-addressed return  
envelope.

Poems of life,  
not of death.  
All mint Bukowski,  
all accepted.

In the acceptance  
letter, another  
Bukowski chapbook  
was proposed  
since eighty-seven  
poems now  
were in hand.

Since seventy copies  
would have been signed,  
the chapbook cannot  
be, it appears, so  
this editor will  
space out the poems  
three to four per issue  
in the usual manner.

Since Wormwood 133  
is now being typed,  
Bukowski will live on  
through Issue 158.

Maybe, at that time,  
in the year 2000,  
I'll be able to  
accept Bukowski's  
absence.