

MY SUSPICIONS & WANT LIST

has it ever occurred to other writers
published in Wormwood that
we get rejected from the eastern (U.S.)
little literary magazines
because of that?

i know it had to be the year 1980
when i saw my first Wormwood
that was the year i consciously decided
to go see what was currently happening
in poetry
after years of writing for the jazz press
and after years of writing poetry in the dark
either i found a copy at Papa Bach's
or Gerald sent me one in jail
i don't remember exactly

actually, i had a real job then
and a jones too
that
on occasion landed me in jail

and now i have a shelf of Wormwoods

would that every poetry magazine
were so readable (you hear that
you eastern bastards?)

and they're all in mint condition
keep your dirty paws off
i'm one finicky son of a bitch
when it comes to my Wormskis

my collection includes:
#s 16, 17, 18, 21, 24, 31, 34, 35,
43, 50, 51, 53, 55, & 59-139
just in case
you know someone
who can fill the lacunae

fill the void
and keep us criminals
off the streets.

—Mark Weber (28 Nov 95)

Albuquerque, NM