



2-15-2018

Cellphone Psychosis

Robert Cooperman

Follow this and additional works at: <https://dc.swosu.edu/westview>

Recommended Citation

Cooperman, Robert (2018) "Cellphone Psychosis," *Westview*: Vol. 33 : Iss. 2 , Article 8.
Available at: <https://dc.swosu.edu/westview/vol33/iss2/8>

This Poetry is brought to you for free and open access by the Journals at SWOSU Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Westview by an authorized administrator of SWOSU Digital Commons. For more information, please contact phillip.fitzsimmons@swosu.edu.

Cellphone Psychosis

by Robert Cooperman

Today, all of Denver seems afflicted:
the woman carrying her baby in a sling
like a frigate's figurehead in front of her chest,
while she goes on and on to the phone
she grips for dear life in front of her infant,
maybe thinking her voice droning on forever
is even more important for her baby's
development than playing Mozart for her;

then there's the other woman carrying
a grocery bag in one hand, holding the phone
she's shouting her life into, in the other,
so rather than stop talking for two seconds,
she karate kicks the button to change
the light from red to green;

finally, the guy in the SUV big as a tank,
dawdling at maybe ten miles an hour
on a four-lane boulevard, yapping happily,
not noticing me in the crosswalk, walking
with the light he's ignored. I jump back
and shout a string of Miltonic invective.

But of course the guy hasn't heart me,
and if he did clip me, would he notice or care,
the injustice of it all making me spit rage,

until I remember Paris last night:
too many dead and wounded by the guns
and bombs of terrorists, for me, ultimately,
to care much about the blissfully oblivious.