Prayers Coagulate Around a Woman on Her Porch

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Recommended Citation
Available at: https://dc.swosu.edu/westview/vol35/iss1/32

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Prayers Coagulate
Around a Woman on Her Porch

By Henry D. Goldkamp

Southern static : pink tongue : dewy ears : seagulls yelling Wal-Mart

parking lot next door : train anger : projects : boxcar breathe a spray

our woman on her porch : chicken fat green bean tin : gospel lukewarm beer

busting miller’s white girl gold : strung out queen cobra wet : hissy fit

she twerk on twilight : her iPhone whip cream hand fan : work hard

zaps of blue : miniature death-struggle zip the bottom of that glue-catch

heard round corner : rats clowning circle nets brown slick : scurry

what left of sky : pulled weeds dyed daps blue light her iris crispy :

lollipops of grease : her past : window unit got sty eye sing ugly
summer oversung dust rug heart index
: Sun worship : Son worship : Sunday :

mismatched fryer pan : chapel pound heat
God won’t : answer and they leave messages

they locked inside out : church stink :
Sun dead cow tow the white nitrogen bead

tiny mystery island of salt below
bare copper wire fishing out an outlet

open holes her pomeranian claws :
slab : black warp inhale a weight

furry gravity noses in : vanish flesh
happy : gold : look : rock doves

hopping small hops pick bits of gravel :
spit out when bits of gravel bite hard

blue ink blink metallic shivering $5.99
dripping ablutions heaping goo

after milk curdles does it grow fur?
she doesn’t take honey with a goddamn thing

radio cricket behind her smile sticky :
cheeks shimmer pothole antennae

internet trickle inside that sweat-brain
a single termite wing missing a chunk
attic diaspora: Mississippi desert
pregnant big with ten pound sky

child shriek five houses down “I’m gonna kill you”: her eyes crimp like bottlecapped

twist-cap ashtray: three smushed butts: one still smoking and sour and justified

peanut shell sleep: armrest: waffle-thread shrapnel: protein war against

drugged Louisiana Purchase: roach dancing in love: deflated tricycle tire

her dreamfeet crinkle astroturf
Jesus: second miracle of water

a kiss: a molding lampshade: offal of cheap pastel purple ribbon: Go Saints

cooler: foam guts factory speckled frozen splash: the time giant Night

grown lonely to rip raw cherry plastic in half growling cloud milk: stray

cat tummy drag fat: crawl space: light bulb pocked: grey smoke

street car sizzles like frozen pizza: tissue-thin Bible: Chinese menu: The President
grates behind her channel surfing: a ghost clicking dogs: palms swish into cat burglars

*Lion of the Valley* props up her window unit wedged: wet donkey: sopping prayers

like walking into someone’s mouth:
:soda water vault: same feeling

a family glock that sleepy trigger:
screen smack: denim-wrapped:

giant night: quietus