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Prayers Coagulate Around a Woman on Her Porch

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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