NEIGHBOR

Book 6

AF TE RW AR DS

Ed Baker

9/26/1998 7/5/2007

first draft 1998 for

CID

2007 for JS, JM, SS, FC, Bob, Chuck, David

&

"what's her name"

many of these poems (in different form published in: Persimmon, Frogpond, Tundra, Longhouse, moonset, & countless 'other' forgettable (online) maga-zines

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AFTERWARDS

better from here climb higher

> in her window reflecting clouds my mind

> > on sill insect over here huge grin

> > > bug-eyes devouring full moon

difficulty seeing I climb higher a different view

rain rain she raises her leg also window

> between our houses wavering spider drops

> > in driveway tiny nipples arousing

> > > little tangles her long, black hair I look for a way in

behind her tree bending into discovery

flower-print summer dress pressing into her exactly

> thin legs going into an 'attitude'

> > hip s seduction practiced

> > > lips sipping also, red wine

all so open how nice

in her bed I hear my call

> Bone fish on ceiling swims away

> > door slammed leaving green Vulvo

> > > in window gazing hard on

house quiet missing even her pointed nose

from here watching her burn my poems

> cutting chili-peppers this late not much is prepared

> > sesame seeds added to her running commentary

> > > far away falling against

excessive gust up-lifting her summer skirt

crossing her legs also this drive way

> yellow flower holding onto cracked vase

> > perched on sill situate bag of bones

> > > from this height falling this old cat

writing this not same as kissing

her

make-out couch and the juicy nothing better

> her gaze straining what seen

> > inside this smell a woman whistling

> > > into her suddenly w out hesitation

far beyond frog moon leaps

sighing comes also signals kiss kiss kiss kiss

-yoko's

sheets & words silken and the wow

> hang-down hair moist mouth blowing me away

> > long, bony foot up my ass leaving

across from here sparkling what needs go there

how many mouths unconsciously have done this

> opening closing incessantly what did I expect

> > again unbending "I have to pee" "Later"

> > > one peep eye-to-eye groping

farther back falling pleasant bahngs

clearly what is real ignored

> wet dress clinging eyes

> > shade all the way down all the way

> > > suddenly surprising she

remembering suddenly I am overcome

back against tree turn is into sudden leer

> be yond Flower Avenue who is caring?

> > root-bound in window -well

> > > forget chill sit s naked in this woozy

at least open it s risky

look out points to symbol

> DAMN! another mosquito biting her ass

> > AHHHH kiss w tongue so far in out of the question

> > > hook in eye catching my attention

close to her obfuscates desire

thinner now a-tangle of bodies

> tiny mouth eating thoroughly this tawdry

> > old cat left alone w nothing

> > > chirp ping breaks through her silence

through even this a wanton sun

"my father raped me" and the scar? "cut is deep"

> remembering the bullshit not who you are

> > here there yet no orgasm

> > > sun-moon metaphors hide the funk

jumps out degrees on wall Doctor of Women s Studies

relentless ly moving just so just so old crabs

> so many words failing this po em

> > light in window flickering her resolve

> > > going in clearing a space

fire in mind everything else relative

not a cloud watching her cat

> again going to night-school

> > broomstick leaning against wall

> > > among these pages searching for We

bending words bending meaning no difference

beside myself pulling out another "book"

> how undone writing s condition

> > afterwards lighting a cigarette she pontificates

> > > tomorrow a good time to go as it is

so much shade under this branch why move?

two-as-one swim away womb

> later writing in journal "I know she exists."

> > marginal even that this

> > > some books depend upon exactly

not another drop of wine spilling

caught in the act something to get out of

> suddenly smelling her/me

> > long coupling s binding us towards same

> > > Afterwards a "rule" arises let it

early on they made her a Saint it s validation

NUTZ to you back and forth marauding ants

> another post-card from Kyoto "every day...write a book"

> > hiking up another mountain another an other

> > > these words

these stones

(silence)