POETRY 283

collateral damage

a few rabbits built of sticks and wet skin scraps shiver and snatch bites out of the brown bald grass. winter is a hum of motors. winter is a field with no borders.

january 16, 1992 4:47 pm kelly calls. it's raining. wanna see a movie? they've started bombing baghdad.

at the field's centre over a few shaking fur scraps a tree splays wet

black limbs like filaments
running
inside air, air
flattened out
of the third dimension
air that's flat like a circuit board
like a glass pane

bare black tree bug slammed on a windshield

i am
walking to the theatre
in the streets umbrellas
float and
bounce in streams
rain falls on us in waves
and makes the city

grey, fleshy, body struck on pavement. i stop at the bus shelter. i read an ad in the paper

ROADKILL!

You hit it, you eat it!

Obtain the color brochure on Roadkill Products and order the Roadkill Cookbook the song cassette by Ike Turnpike and the Ditchcombers plus caps aprons oven mitts

the limbs
are bare and
black, null
space, the place
where the glass has
cracked. night sprays
through, drowning the grass
in a widening pool

night is a thin
burnt fluid night is
collateral damage
night is flowing around my ankles as i run
to the next bus stop.
you hit it, well,
you eat it.
a siren sings a siren sings
the air splinters