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## POETRY

## Lyn Lifshin - A Wet Cold Winter to Come

A WET COLD WINTER TO COME THE PAPER SAYS

the geraniums hang on, the  
oak leaves are copper. The

news on the phone is never  
easy. Comfort is my cat in the  
cove of my knees. One minute  
it was fall then sky went lead,  
spit ice crystals.

The news on the phone is never easy,  
full of warning. In the driveway,  
something without a head, a clump  
that looked like lint from the  
dryer but with tiny pink feet.  
I want someone to tuck  
me in, rub my back. Instead, I  
put the geraniums to bed under  
quilts like babies.

Something without a head but  
with tiny pink feet. I think of the  
crows circling the crumbs,  
swooping down to the squirrel's  
nest. My cat, 20, is on insulin.  
Yesterday when the sky went  
lead like the news she followed  
me from room to room. I think

of the crows how often the dark  
birds in films are metaphors for  
what no one wants to say

## SOMEONE SAYS THEY LOOKED LIKE CARTWHEELING BIRDS

the quietest moments some  
one will say are the worst.  
Someone doesn't know what to  
do with new wedding photos.

Someone eats, not tasting  
what she swallows. Someone  
who just got her law degree  
goes home to the rooms she

will lie in alone, can't  
imagine looking for a job  
now, watches a video of  
the wedding weeks ago,

<<<  
UP

## NON-FICTION

Richard Sassoon - I Will Vote  
Michael O'McCarthy - How Many...  
Richard Simonelli - Will I Vote?  
C.E. Chaffin - On the Quadrennial...  
A Letter from John Kerry  
Robert Klein Engler - Ground Zero  
Mindy Farabee - Romanian Spring  
Daniela Gioseffi - There Is Such ...  
C.S. McKinstry - Heinz: Made in M...  
Dawne E. Bost - How a Lifelong So...  
Jimmy Hall - Kirsten Powers Is T...  
Alex Migliore - Comatosed Recruit...  
Megan Doney - An Essay  
Brett Alan Sanders - On the Pragm...  
Sandra L. Ceren - Your Health Car...  
Herb Greer - An Embarrassing Secr...  
Bill Sander - A World Pledge  
Gerard Meister - Pointe of View  
Jimmy Hall - What We Learned  
Abou...  
William Starr Moake - I'm Not...  
Melisande Luna - Generation GOP  
Avery Elzmyth - Bush or Kerry? Eh...  
Bernard Miller - That Dirty L Wor...  
Cleatus Rattan - Assumptions to P...  
Rachel Johnson - Is Your Muse Mis...  
Don Monkerud - Republican Women  
t...  
Craig Etchison & Tom Robertson - ...  
Kelly Ann Malone - Today's So...  
Ed Horne - Two Short Pieces  
Kelvin Bueckert - A Conspiracy Of...  
Steve Kowitz - The Way The World I...  
Rodney R. Jones - Bracing for Mar...  
Renate G. Justin - Voting  
Bob Mustin - What Terrorism Shoul...  
Renee Mumford - Election Time  
Dennis Fox - Jerusalem Again: A P...  
Amy Winklett - America: Love It o...  
Patrick P. Stafford - Some Words ...  
Michael Levy - What Waits Just Ar...  
Stewart Brodian - Why Concern  
Ove...  
James Palombo -  
Mary Grabar - Smokestacks  
Carmen A. Fiore - Is Arrogant Con...  
Stephen Paske - What's My Vot...  
Patricia F. Dascoli - Hair Factor  
Gene Tanta -  
Felicia Parsons - A Case Against ...  
Eli Hastings - Coming Away  
Leonard Levy - Noodling with Idea...  
Susan Dorman - Beyond  
Gunpowder: ...  
Seshu Chamarty -

**"After he finished speaking, I immediately signed up as a volunteer..."**

**-Senator John F. Kerry**  
(page 130)

**"We'll Never Be Young Again"**

Remembering  
The Last Days of John F. Kennedy



Chuck Fries and Irv Wilson  
with Spencer Green

**"We'll Never Be Young Again"**

Remembering The Last  
Days of John F. Kennedy

**"...powerful and touching. It's impossible to put down."**

**-Aaron Spelling**

**Tallfellow Press**

how handsome her husband looked, how "we wish you a lifetime of happiness" on a card now stings. Some

child says the falling birds were flame birds

**SOMEONE GOES OVER OLD LOVE LETTERS**

someone forgets for a moment, thinks of going next door to borrow a then falls apart. Someone still expects a woman with strong arms coming back with groceries and a joke. Some one waits for a black Honda, thinks of the smell of coffee.

In another house, someone starts to make lunch but there's no one to make lunch for. She can't stop seeing the shapes tumbling from the sky. Someone sets up an altar with incense and a drawing. Her child stops before it, says "come eat dinner Daddy"

**AFTER SEPTEMBER 11**

one child writes words with plastic letters, brings them to an altar with a drawing of his father. Look, Daddy look. Someone who used to talk to her mother kneels near the fish tank, still sees her car in the drive way, talks to the fish now, tells them it's just us, Sarah is gone

**AFTER SEPTEMBER 11**

Stephanie Nolasco - Patriot Act R...  
Joe Rector -  
Rose Marie Buccheri - Voting Cons...  
Pat Poggi - Choice Moments In DC

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**ART/ILLUSTRATED WRITING**

- A.D. Winans - Grave Yard Headston...
- A.D. Winans - Anti-War Banner at ...
- Tantra Bensko - Brainwashing
- Paula Grenside - Cassandra
- Paula Grenside - Dove
- Ted Finn - Damn the Eternal War
- Katrin Wiese - Larleadr
- t.p. Luce - my people
- Ari Rubin - Words of the Prophets
- Merrie Miller - Truth
- Rochelle Ratner - Analysis
- Rochelle Ratner - Checkup
- Rochelle Ratner - Ledge
- Drek Davis - War
- Terri Gelenian-Wood - Strange Bed...
- Rhoda Novak - Discourage War, See...
- Satch - Peace in Iraq
- Satch - Next Hot Spot: 1st Marine...
- Satch - Death Appears at the Repu...
- Adam Wagler - Allegiance
- Walter James O'Brien - Suicid...
- DX Stone - Go Home
- DX Stone - Scary World
- DX Stone - Voices
- Latuff - War for Oil
- Latuff - Ronald
- Latuff - Adolf
- Patty Mooney - No War Know Peace
- Patty Mooney - Vote Him Out
- Tom Block - Supreme Court, My Ass
- Stacey Fruits - Closing Time
- Stacey Fruits - How Far Would You...
- Janet Snell - War
- Janet Snell - Artist Against Apar...
- Judy Jones - The Bones of the Hom...
- Judy Jones - Seeing Thru the Eyes...
- John A. Thompson, Sr. - Boots & B...
- John A. Thompson, Sr. - Sacrifice...
- John A. Thompson, Sr. - Unforgott...
- Sandra Shapiro - Cloister
- Sandra Shapiro - Bike and Car
- Anja Klauss - Who
- Anja Klauss - Tony Blair
- Anja Klauss - Hobby Horse
- Wayne Bjerke - Drenched In Blood/...

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someone keeps calling  
 his answering machine  
 to hear his voice even  
 as the building is burning,  
 is stunned in days to  
 hear: "this number is no  
 longer in service." Some  
 one cancels a deposit  
 on a new house, a trip,  
 a life, can't eat pistachio  
 ice cream and not  
 remember. Someone  
 hugs a pillow, still smells  
 cologne of someone  
 missing, can't make her  
 self move his coffee cup  
 from where his lips  
 last touched it

SOMEONE SAVES THE LAST 8:41 E MAIL

"Tuxedo for wedding  
 September 11, 2001"  
 don't forget to get  
 measured, the account  
 is under my name."  
 His friends save the  
 message to their hard  
 drive. His mother says  
 she's glad he had so  
 many happy thoughts  
 in his last moment.  
 His fiancée could not  
 look at the message  
 for many days

SOMEONE RE-PLAYS THE E MAIL

how good the bachelor  
 party was. Another keeps  
 happy news, a 75 dollar  
 win from a football wager.  
 Somebody pays all phone  
 bills just to be able to hear  
 her brother's voice. "that  
 is all we have left of him."  
 Someone wishes she'd  
 saved instant messages,  
 his last one, "I love you,  
 Karse." Another looks at  
 an e mail signed off at  
 8:49:35, says it's like  
 watching someone die

SOMEONE SAYS HIS OFFICE WAS ALWAYS FILLED WITH FLOWERS

plants and roses

- Bayard - This Is Not What America...
- Stephen Ortman - Campaign Strateg...
- Maria Lapachet - We Were Young
- Rob Rosen - The Mule and the Elep...
- Ace Boggess - An excerpt from his...
- Greg Bauder - Mom and Apple P...
- Ellen Meeropol - Knocks
- Anne Stickel - Afraid of the Dark
- T. Zachary Cotler - We Get the Pi...
- Renee Roberson - The Cure
- Tim Houlihan - Once Upon a Time i...
- William Borden - Joe and Al
- Mary Porter-Chase - Dear Senator ...
- Sandra Levy Ceren - Your Health C...
- Robert Guffey - Letters to the Pr...
- Charles Langley - Sammy: A Childr...
- Paul Dickey - All-American Call C...
- Elisabeth Carter - Since They Mov...
- Jonathan Lowe - The Bush Vocabula...
- Stan Hinton - Devil's Advocat...
- Henry Pelifian - Americans in Ira...
- Lee Ehlers - Shame
- Theresa Chaze - And Freedom for A...
- Melody Mansfield - A Day in Septe...
- Jon Hubach - This Is America
- Peter Breschard - Rapture
- Wayne Scheer - Nothing Wrong with...
- Robert Ready - Autocephalous
- Doren Robbins - Week of Nine Some...
- Andrew Kaye - Giving Peace a Chan...
- Bill Teitelbaum - The Order of th...
- Nicole Matthews - The Last Transc...
- Mrinal Bose - Excerpt from The...
- John Quinn - An Interaction
- Kari Ann Owen - Modern Life: The ...
- Linda Hudson Hoagland - Learning ...
- Tracy Abell - Family First
- Thaddeus Rutkowski - Pink Slip fo...
- Dina Televitskaya - The Terrible ...
- Paul Silverman - River Street
- C.B. Smith - The Articles of Peac...
- Colin Harvey - The Bounty Hunters
- Miriam Fried - The Last Time I Sa...
- Erika Dreifus - Calendar Man
- Susan Spaulding - You Never Know
- Rosalie Calabrese - Fly, Lily, FI...
- L. J. Reed - Neil
- Antonios Maltezos - A Lamentable ...
- Mike Ingles - Fresh Kill
- Jerry Richard - The Price Is Wron...
- Douglas Douglas - Spiderpig, 911
- Kenneth Hickey - Election Night
- Suzanne LaFetra - Doom And Bloom
- Yvonne Chism-Peace - Space Invade...
- Sand Rector - Tom, Dick and Harr...
- Michael Cocchiarale - Operation S...
- Nahid Rachlin - Unlikely Bomber

and in his house. His woman stood among them watching the leaves burn across the harbor. Some one says he was sprinting toward the fire, helped others at first, the last anyone saw he was headed to the towers. Someone says "if I had been there with him I couldn't have been able to stop him from doing this. It was a passion to help"

#### SOMEONE SAYS SHE GAVE ME VISION

someone says his last words to his wife were "Everything will be ok." Someone's last words were to his father, "don't worry, Big Guy, it's all under control." Some one said his friend enjoyed life, fit a lot in during his 37 years. Another says her big brother was always there to protect her, doesn't say he was her twin, born one minute earlier, always there and now, not

#### IT WILL BE OK

honey, my mother always said when something seemed scary. Ok. Honey. Always. I'm strong. "Honey, I'll be ok," the last words on a phone tape from the tower on an answering machine. On another answering machine, "Ok. yes, we're highjacked and they've got knives. I love you." It will be ok and good by from the man

Nicole Matthews - Compassion for...  
 Steve Falcone - Stone's Throw  
 James S. Dorr - Peace on Earth  
 Ralph Monday - The Subduer  
 Tom Doughty - Rat Bait  
 Toby Tate - The Muffin Man  
 Daniel DiPrinzio - A Week with th...  
 Beate Sigriddaughter - The Movie ...  
 Jeff Haas - A Model Citizen  
 P. J. Galdubh - The Deal  
 J. B. Hogan - Click It or Ticket  
 Utahna Faith - Mis-Take, a tale i...  
 Raktabh Mahesh - Rachin's Eng...  
 Charles Blackstone - Terrorist Ta...  
 Peter A. Pascaris - A Capitol Ide...  
 Trent Hudley - And to Believe I S...  
 Karen Malpede - The Voice of Read...  
 Harry Tru - Howard & George  
 Ed McDermott - Going  
 Phillip Routh -  
 Brent Powers - Cleanup  
 Mark Olson -  
 Alfred Brock - George W. Bush'...  
 Barbara Jacksha - The Red Trout  
 Margaret B. Davidson - Strange Ju...  
 Terese Ficyk-Pampellonne - A Play  
 Amanda Lam -  
 Dave Yost - A Story  
 John Young - Liquid Gold

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#### POETRY

Tony Barnstone - Alladin in Oakla...  
 George Wallace - A Prayer in Time...  
 Ruth Daigon - The Young Dead  
 John D. Smith - On Pacifism  
 Ellen Hopkins - Ugly in Black  
 Alan Shapiro - Dog and Owner  
 Richard Newman - What I Carry wit...  
 Rosemary Musachio - Twenty-four  
 H...  
 Collin Kelley - AIDS Suite  
 Orville Lloyd Douglas - I Am Not ...  
 Michelle Gibson - Prayer after 9-...  
 Lisa Harrison - The Answer  
 Randy Lofficier - I Heard It on t...  
 Lyn Lifshin - A Wet Cold Winter t...  
 Bruce Boston - Concrete Poem for ...  
 Clayton Couch - Combat Poem  
 Dee Rimbaud - Atom Dead Latex  
 Donna Spector - When the Storm  
 Co...  
 Gil Allen - Wardrobe  
 Estelle Villas - Onoma  
 Alan Catlin - Three Views from a ...  
 Robert Covelli - Heretic!  
 Joan Payne Kincaid - Policies of ...  
 Radomir Luza Jr - Yo (I Liked Ron...  
 Corrine De Winter - Why Not to Vo...  
 Elisha Porat - In Netanya, above ...  
 Marge Simon - Patriots' Day  
 Rich Murphy - Terrorized

trying to convince,  
with his "honey,  
listen it will  
ok be ok"

SEPTEMBER 24, 2001

I watch each person  
boarding the metro.  
On Saturday, at  
Shrimshari, the Persian  
restaurant, a blaze of  
candles in every window.  
Waiters in red, white and  
blue like the tablecloths.  
On the back of each T shirt  
I Love America  
September 11. Fog  
hasn't lifted, rain in the air.  
The dogs, I hear, at ground  
zero get depressed not  
finding bodies, think they  
are doing something  
wrong so later, back where  
they sleep, their trainers  
hide under a table or in a  
closet so the dogs can find them

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so later, back where they  
sleep, their trainers hide  
under a table cloth or in a  
closet so the dogs can find them

OCTOBER 18, 2001

Mist on the pond,  
his blue eyes sky.  
Jeweled grass. I  
think of my mother's  
bedroom vanity

Steven Brodsky - To Dust  
A.D. Winans - Written on the Bomb...  
Jeffrey C. Alfier - No-Spin Zone  
Frank Anthony - Bless US American...  
Victoria McCabe - Democratic Pomp  
Geoff Tims - The Voter Speaks  
Stacie Barry - I Sold You, You So...  
Ann Cefola - Portrait of My Count...  
Ellen Birkett Morris - The Decisi...  
Michele F. Cooper - The Way the W...  
Vernyce Dannells - Names Have  
Bee...  
Amy Small-McKinney - Nigeria 2002  
Tamir Buchshtav - Land  
Stephen Oliver - The Desert as Pa...  
Frances Ruhlen McConnel - Where  
H...  
Jota Boombab - Composed upon  
the ...  
Jake Vagus - A Cardinal in the Ra...  
T. Luis Cox - The Salt of the Moo...  
Srinjay Chakravarti - Capitol Hil...  
Rayn Roberts - Opinions Expressed...  
Thomas Dorsett - Grave New World  
Ahn Behrens - Dining in America  
Florence Weinberger - Art and Art...  
David Michael Jackson - I Knew No...  
Georgie Lee Blalock III - Not Sur...  
Stephen B Grant - In the Wake of ...  
M.A. Internicola - Bombs Over Bag...  
Khadijah Queen - Free Country  
Ann Elliott Sherman - Shiva in a ...  
Liz Dolan - Air Raid Drills  
Joyce Meyers - Jenin's Daught...  
Miriam Axel-Lute - Counter/Protes...  
Eddie Coletti - Torture  
Daniel M. Shapiro - 86% Effective  
Sharon Esther Lampert - Gay Broth...  
Austin Alexis - Sounds of War  
Amari Hamadene - Under the  
Poll&#...  
Randy St. Marie - Voodoo Events  
Adele Bourne - Grocery List  
Susan H. Case - And Now We're...  
Magdalena Ball - The Modern Worl...  
Joel Mathew Hegberg - Essence Dis...  
Barbara DeCesare - What You Say  
G...  
Scott Withiam - Government  
Depend...  
Deborah Ferber - The Sweet Fruit ...  
Omékongo Dibinga - Welcome to  
the...  
Gerry Nicosia - The Dead Bid Geor...  
Harry R. Wilkens - Real World  
Bob Bradshaw - Monster in the Twe...  
Charles H. Johnson - The Way We  
W...  
Patricia Wellingham-Jones - The C...  
Eileen Malone - Refugee Camp  
Teresa White - Long Hot Summer  
of...  
Curtis Carroll Rice - Strong Enou...  
Sally Buckner - Afternoons  
Eileen Malone - Knife Thrower'...

buried in Johnson's  
baby powder, snow  
thick, deep enough  
for a box of money  
to be camouflaged in  
it. Footprints trailing  
powder thru the  
house. We wore masks  
clearing the house out.  
Talcum in drawers,  
in shoes, in cashmere.  
How today it would  
be evacuated

OCTOBER 15, 2001

news of another  
hijacked bus. Lately,  
after I pet the cat I  
turn on the news for  
the disaster de jour.  
In Dupont Circle  
last night 3 beggars  
spitting and snarling,  
"got a knife" you  
be my deer." Every  
one's walking a tight  
rope and, as if to  
mimic those cart-  
wheeling birds, the  
ones jumping from  
the burning towers,  
falling and crashing

IN THE ONE TREE OF SINGING BIRDS

after Sept 11

I never saw them, it's  
like a boat made of  
birds. Sycamore maybe,  
long thin leaves. Past  
crows and geese, like  
crystals in a grey house  
or stained glass on a  
morning nothing seems  
bright. I never see the  
birds, maybe too many  
to see one as one, a  
hill of feathers, a beach  
ball of singing, the  
only thing I can't see  
but believe

OCTOBER BIRDS

not the cart wheeling  
birds of fire, bodies  
flaming in circles

Terry Lowenstein - A Different Ha...  
Martin Kich - Homely Metaphors fo...  
Samuel Nicholson - Everyday Heroe...  
Gabrielle S. Faust - Desert War  
Victor Camillo - The Newspaper  
Tolu Ogunlesi - No Christmas in B...  
E. Louise Beach - After Battle  
Daniel Thomas Moran - White on Ri...  
Braxton Younts - Old Glory  
Duane Locke - Al Fresco Cafe Poem...  
John Dooley - Slave Killer It  
Mike Sekuloff - Rage Plagues  
Jack Cook - Feds and Meds: A Medi...  
Doug Arnold - Newly Apolitical  
Debashish Haar - Devaluation of L...  
Jeanpaul Ferro - Talking to Yahwe...  
John Tiong Chunggoo - Political H...  
Jack Cooper - No Longer  
David Salner - Nixon Times (Or Wa...  
Christopher J. Jarmick - Crazy Ta...  
Gloria G. Murray - Chopin And Pre...  
Marcus Bales - Found Poem: Recycl...  
Justin Evans - Jubilate Agno  
Larry Rapant - Political Speech  
Davina Rhine - Three Days and Fou...  
Matthew D'Abate - Another On...  
Helen Buckingham - Gardener's...  
Joseph Alexander - Milk, Not War  
Chris Major - I See  
Derek Tellier - Terror's Vari...  
Jayne Jaudon Ferrer - Conventiona...  
Lorraine Stark - A Band of Sister...  
Barry Ergang - We Regret to Infor...  
Arthur Ford - At Least Half  
Suzan Lustig - Fatal Reports on t...  
Sheila Nixon - Iraq, Safe For Dem...  
Howard Camner - Everything  
Chang...  
Judy Z. Kronenfeld - First Salvo  
Tom Moore - Rich Herds in Flames  
Martin Bennett - September, 1972  
Nina Corwin - Telling Time  
Janet Butler - Iraq  
John J. Mundt - What We Have on  
O...  
Vadim Bystritski - Off The Twin T...  
Craig Kirchner - Baghdad Dream  
Hazel Wilcox - Communist America  
Adi Albala - The Hawks at The Hag...  
Michael McIrvin - Virgil on Main ...  
Jan Oscar Hansen - War Is Coming ...  
Keith Berry - American Detox  
John Francis Missett - These Dead...  
Susan O'Neill - Licensing Req...  
Enriqueta Rodriguez Carrington - ...  
Eliza Kelley - Sudan Report  
Jayne Lyn Stahl - A Special Breed  
Raye Rose - Eleven Minutes  
AnnMarie Eldon - Dear Donald  
Glenn Hutchinson - Freedom  
Anne Harding Woodworth - Tulip  
Co...  
Jim D. Babwe - My Candidate Is an...  
L. Ward Abel - In Another Country...

from the top floors,  
a tree of birds, loud  
and bright. Eve tells  
me of days with her  
mother, how she  
is escaping, a kite  
without any string  
and I think of my  
mother's last days,  
yelling that one night  
aid was a murderer.  
After ballet, a startling  
blue sky, stunning  
as the day the planes  
tore holes in it. Or  
today's headline  
"Capital shut down"

#### AFTER A WEEKEND

after September 11

of blackness,  
each stab of  
news, only  
bad, a  
swoop of  
crows. I was  
not hungry,  
ate cookies,  
wild for some  
thing sweet  
and slid into  
the dark of  
a film, wanting  
to escape, not  
think of the  
next trip, the  
last months,  
the days  
losing light

#### OCTOBER 29 2001

yesterday, the  
twisted faces on  
tv, ground zero  
memorial. A  
woman who  
couldn't speak  
without sobbing,  
"I wanted to  
breathe him in,  
I wanted him  
to be inside  
me. I wanted  
to tell him he  
has to help us,  
get us thru. He

Dawn M. Lang - Golden Eggs are fo...  
Ulrike Gerbig - Ice Age  
Christopher Kendalls - Your Elect...  
Robin M. Buehler - Sons of the Fa...  
Lynn E. Cohen - Pearl Sky Days  
Anna Evans - Next to of Course En...  
Ed Wolverton - God Bless America  
Samuel Minier - Radiant Jesus  
Donna Nocera Miller - State of th...  
Susan Edwards Richmond - Crossing  
Tony Reeve - Dreaming of Lincoln  
Sandra J. Lindow - A Crow in Wart...  
Michael Morical - Cento: By the E...  
Terri Lyn Kenepp - Stars  
Jerry Chambers - Morality Lost  
June Saraceno - A Sudanese  
Mother...  
Corey Mesler - President W  
Jon Wesick - Why I'm Voting for K...  
M. Brisbin Miller, II - Tirades  
Patricia Brody - Riverside Park: ...  
Rachel Webster - Anti-war  
Albert Russo - If Truth Be Told  
Kate Bernadette Benedict - The Pl...  
Wendy Drexler - The Twentieth  
Cen...  
Gretchen Fletcher - Record Keepin...  
Scott Malby - Venus Furioso  
Robert Cohen - Palestinians  
Rachel Barenblat - No Alternative...  
Dorothee Lang - Tipping the Scale...  
Ed Cockrell - Heaven's Reward  
James Grinwis - The Violent Emoti...  
Tony Word - A Poem Of Gratitude  
Bruce Williams - Bombs Away  
Alana Merritt Mahaffey - Televisi...  
John Bradley - Exorcism of the Wo...  
Japheth Brubaker - Economy  
Steven E. Brown - Sandy Koufax  
Cheryl Stiles - Gulf  
Kenneth Pobo - Cannibals  
Riccardo Giovanni - Invisible (Un...  
Dory Hudspeth - Listening Through...  
Lynn Veach Sadler - A Teenager Ha...  
Esther Cameron - Premises  
Laurence Loeb - Ars Politica  
Steven Sher - Far from the War  
Jessica Pankratz - Cloning a Nati...  
Mack Bridenbaker - One-A-Day  
D. Breeden - History; Duty: A Son...  
Donnie Cox - American Business Ca...  
Liz Riseden - A Woman Smiles  
Jeffrey Michael Miller - Kerry vs...  
Margaret Balch-Gonzalez - Apocaly...  
Sherry Chandler - Rally  
Anne Montague - Beheading  
Mark McKain - American Charm  
Shelley Ettinger - Blood Sport: a...  
Theresa Magliano - Make It Stop  
David B. Axelrod - Ited We Stan  
Jeffrey Ethan Lee - Surreal (kil...  
Peter S. Griffin - You Can't ...  
Valery Oisteanu - Manifesto for t...  
Mark Nensel - Wrong  
Ted Hedden - Indian Summer Breeze

has to help  
his daughter,  
his brother, his  
sister. He has  
to be inside me,  
fill me, help me"

OCTOBER 29

After September 11

another wildly  
bright clear blue  
day. Cloudless  
except for the  
shade, the huge  
dark inside. A  
cloud seeded  
with poison, a  
black hill of ice  
that stains what  
ever moves near,  
wild bright and  
crisp, the nicest  
fall except that  
it's this fall

OCTOBER 29, 2001

wild and bright  
like that Tuesday,  
September. Not  
a cloud, nothing  
not ordinary. But  
today all the rusty  
oaks, their leaves  
burnt sienna. What  
has always been  
there, spilling  
across for the  
geese, a blaze  
against a concrete  
sky like those in  
front of a firing  
squad or on the  
105th floor of a  
doomed building  
about to leap

OCTOBER 29, 2001

I can't think of  
Riti's baby blooming,  
only wonder how  
she must hold her  
belly with each  
wave of news.

Elizabeth Kerlikowske - State Of ...  
Jason Fraticelli - Stromboli'...  
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Inside, he's  
safer. Her diamond  
glittering in her  
nose, her smile  
rhinestones. The  
news, a miscarriage

OCTOBER 30, 2001

When I leave the  
house, the cat's  
found her spot of  
sun near the orange  
tree. I'd like to  
curl into myself,  
I could imagine  
lying down beside  
her. Last night  
when I couldn't  
sleep, on CNN, a  
plastic tent for 4  
where you could  
live for 4 days,  
escape gas and I  
forget what else.  
What next, October's  
mantra tho the oaks  
glisten in flame and  
the geraniums are  
exploding in  
gorgeous nail polish  
red as if nothing  
could stop them

The Pedestal Magazine

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