*

Shiny surfaces,

Shoes crossing the floor,

No work for now,

Funkytown.

*

Smiles amiably,

Walks in an easy stride,

A fine indulgence.

*

Birds in the air, sporty blue scarf,

Tires squeal on the street,

Paper bag.

*

Under the fading light,

Enclosures of private thought,

Spread yourself out.

Cold hands between legs,

Floor, ceiling, walls,

Below above, above below.

*

Milk turned to foam,

Ocean of greatness,

All come to the watering hole.

*

Roomful of easy

Strangers,

A casual arrangement

Rearranged.

*

She looks between the covers,

Eyes dart across the page,

A sly smile.

You can see it coming,

Laughter in the eyes,

The sandwich of delight.

*

The young away from their families,

Here, in the near, under the sky,

*

A distribution of thought,

The decimation of desolation.

*

In the public dance of contraries,

Things fall behind the counter,

Plop.

Wide turn of events,

Moving merrily along,

Seeing the wind jump.

*

The breath of space,

A race around the world,

A look at the common.

*

Twinkling in the night,

Opening to everything,

Are we not alike?

*

Iridescent pink bag,

An upturned nose,

Animal decals on her cheeks.

Blistering disagreement,

Calculated explanation,

Nodding.

*

Bunches of gazers,

Sudden movements startle,

Eyes undress

What they see.

*

He tells her that he loves love,

She holds her own arms,

Her arms hold themselves.

ጥ

With a soft, serious look,

He furrows his brow,

The deep mud

Of mind.

*

Jerky bulkiness,

The weight of waiting,

Takes time for one

To be free.

*

In the soft bite of computer light,

Caressing her arm,

Agreement.

She's small but tall,

He has disarming charm,

They exchange handshakes

For hands.

*

Rubber squeaks, garish colors,

Here is where everything gets

Said aloud.

*

a place to sit still for pleasure,

A talking baby, from way out West.

Rubs her temples, observes the grain,

Wonder opens wide, it always works.

*

It goes way back, a voice is lifted.

Into the fray, vortex of life.

*

Change

Dances with the familiar,

A clouded face, a memory.

*

Dark glasses, cloth gloves,

Furry hat, small mouth,

A man scratches

His own back.

Wicker basket, gentle glances,

Legs spread apart,

Generosity.

*

Batteries in the street,

Buckles on black boots,

Words on paper napkins.

*

She wears a ring, he points at a poster,

Their eyes wander the landscape.

*

What constitutes an idea?

A gold pendant, wearing green at night.

Soft dark hair, a jutting chin,

Sturdy shoes, the blues,

High sun in a pail.

*

Cups, a table against the wall,

Bits and bytes,

White grains in a shaker.

*

Do the step and slide,

Some actors are more likeable,

Luck sets the stage.

*

Wastepaper tired, elbows on the table,

She's back on top herself.

One bad leg, one good,

She touches his neck,

His voice goes all sing-songy.

*

There's a concert on Friday,

Tattoos are for being seen,

Legs get in the way.

*

Circular lamps, a shuddering wind,

Dark figures move in

The shadows.

*

Uplifting thoughts, a blinking light,

A long white scarf, like a bank of snow.

We animate the stillness,

The light stays open all day,

Things to come.

*

Indiscrete discretion,

Some wear dark glasses,

Some do not, big pockets.

*

What's the courage of ownership?

Broken fingernails, hives for the bees.

*

He laughs at something he's reading,

A hand to his chin,

Split decision.

A stocky man smiles,

A handsome woman smiles,

Taking a break with tea.

*

Lip gloss, a healthy glow,

Hands on her hips,

Just so,

She knows how to dance.

*

A child moves behind her mother,

Calmly acting in her official

Capacity.

A small boy backs up

Slowly,

ancient knights wore their own

homemade armor.

*

No bounds between us,

There's a crack in the ceiling,

a crack in the floor,

*

The tabletop, thin,

The nuclear family, scattered,

We live in front of

The future.

Older artist, hat, canvas bag,

A tiny woman, taken for young.

*

She lists as she walks,

Catches her son's eye

With a smile, snuggle up.

*

Small girl,

Her even smaller sister.

Contented mother in earth tones.

*

Milky light of a lamp,

Quilted coat, severe look,

The moment passes.

Gleaming white teeth,

His mouth is moving,

Jowls and a long chin,

Shrub of hair.

*

A libertine look,

Sits down slowly, slowly,

Laughter shakes her ribcage.

*

Two old friends meet,

Large rings on her arms.

Blue suede suit,

Sleek hair, wooden cane.

Tired driver, Truck like a tank,

Ten-dollar bill, held aloft,

A toast.

*

A fashionable haircut,

Spiked against the light,

Sandwich wrapped in paper.

*

Mother feeds herself,

Spoon in a baby's mouth.

Wispy strands, chunks of thought.

Hairy legs, nimble dance.

Hair in a bun, defiance,

Morning after.

*

Button front, Head shaved military style.

Smoothes the sleeves of his shirt.

*

Windows above the doors.

Painted floor's glossy sheen

Shines like a small pond.

*

King on his throne,

Languishing on a stool,

Sucking on a toothpick.

His wellworn pants,

Loose in the seat,

Reflections in his

Patched-up glasses.

*

A fringe leather jacket,

A day off, a happy grin,

A piece of cake.

*

The story,

A new garage door,

A man leans down,

Bruises below the knees.

Casual stance, Bagel in a sack.

Hand held out as a book-holder.

*

Vague shapes in the once-shiny floor.

Toddler puts the toddler seat away.

*

A down-turn in business.

Empty pockets,

A cloth for wiping up spills.

*

Replenishment, labels on things,

Simple sunshine,

Plaid jacket, zipped tight.

Cream-colored walls,

Dust in the ceiling vents,

All breathing is personal.

*

Fingers his billfold,

Makes faces when no one's looking,

Wants it to work.

*

Hot drink on a cold day

Expectations,

Didn't put the lid on first.

*

Hardworking,

She's bent, as if in pain,

Reason goes wanting in a storm.

Blinking eyes, fingers fly,

Military precision, a sweet smile.

*

Tight mouth, pulled to a pinch,

Anger serves the angry,

One-hand texting.

*

A tiny complaint between friends,

No thought of consequence,

Feels like spring.

*

How to remember the way home,

A knitted mouse, tinkling piano.

A briefly dancing barista,

Let's get something straight,

Business is good.

*

Matching gestures, like a dance,

Boxes stacked, cups in bags,

Calms the baby.

*

Dark-eyed mother,

Her shoeless infant,

Crumbs on her blouse,

Splayed feet standing.

Headlights flashing,

Confident stature.

She combs her bangs

with her fingers.

*

Music overhead,

Paper in hand,

Eyes intent,

Come across, she says.

*

Gun on a man's belt,

Straw for a spoon,

Wearing blue,

Child at mother's side.

She carries their drinks.

Bulletin board,

A kid runs by, she turns to look.

*

Rain wet shoes,

Plain and simple, old buddy,

Long nose, sharp tone,

One black eye.

*

Who's invisible?

Singers in unison,

A giggling pair,

Stir sticks.

*

Shoulder bump between friends,

He stretches to a yawn,

A quizzical look.

Underwear exposed,

Umbrella on a woven cord,

Halfeaten lunch.

*

Decals on window,

Crowded parking lot,

Building in grassy ruin.

*

Sentimental sayings,

People altogether,

Which one knows better?

*

I love this, so much, she grins,

Non-compos mentis, *it means I love you.*

Can one learn to relax?

Cotton slacks,

Uncrossed legs, one sleeve at a time.

*

Open door,

Worried couple, an infant,

Two blue helmets on the table.

*

Gold watch,

Spigots dripping syrup,

Posters of other countries.

Gift bags.

*

Cyclist wearing shorts,

Busy street, beyond the glass.

Late lunch, apple crunch.

Bare legs, crowded room,

Strap-on sandals,

Shoulder-length hair, admiring looks.

*

Slick aviator glasses,

Face like a cartoon,

A rope for a belt.

*

Worst-case scenario,

White tag, black scarf,

A new pack of cigarettes.

*

Whole milk in a tumbler,

Dark chocolate, Reading a book,

Candy cigar.

Clean work pants, Ironed shirt,

Muddy boots, caked and dried.

*

Consider your words carefully,

My motorcycle is my weapon.

*

Moving quickly, Flight control,

Abrupt landing, Complete stop,

I'm spellbound.

*

Sleek shoes, no wedding ring,

No makeup, stonewashed jeans,

Zippers, everywhere.

Be-robed and bearded,

A bag of electronics,

Just back from Vegas.

*

He walks around the table,

Congratulations, walking on tiptoe.

*

Wild imagination,

What gets noticed

In a tornado?

*

Orange soda, paper cup,

Popular melody,

Afternoon, evening.

Worker's cap on an old man,

A young man in a suit,

Leaning stare between.

*

A rag, a rack of maps,

A rubber mat, a mop,

One squeeze does the trick.

*

Foam around the rim.

Crooked chair, uneven legs,

Sugar high, bright lights.

*

Man in tights, wrinkled shirt,

Light breeze, fast moving line,

Bubbles in his soles.

Sittin' still, still stylin',

Lace-up boots, Black frame glasses.

Bleached blond hair.

*

Touch screen, nimble fingers,

Legs akimbo, slight stumble,

Points to the sky.

*

Rolled-up sleeves,

Headband. with unicorns on it,

She plays with her buttons.

*

No one can tell the difference,

Muttering, *Labels* on everything.

Paper in a clenched fist,

Coffee beans in a bowl,

Timers with magnets.

*

One hand in her pocket,

A badge, and a high rating,

Inching forward.

*

Shelf, foot bar, side door,

Pullout drawer, below the counter,

Half price coupon.

*

Finger tapping, mother-in-law,

One, two, three, whack-a-mole,

Loud knocking.

Every day's someone's birthday,

Bags of aromatic coffee,

Painted birds in the window.

*

Long hair, head cold,

Dainty sips, open collar,

Long gold chain, Neck tattoo.

*

A splayfoot walk, head shaking,

Talks to himself,

Puts his name on everything.

*

A pen in her mouth, A tinkling sound,

He's muscular, a gray trench coat.

Strides across the parking lot,

Good posture,

The blues, on a sunny day.

*

Khaki pants, cultivated stubble,

Who decides what's right?

Oval eyes.

*

Stars on the brim of a red baseball cap,

Hair pulled to the side and tied.

*

A leather bag, soft, like pudding,

Frayed cuffs, Steel-toed shoes,

Have a lovely day.

Sighing,

Long looks in the mirror,

Oily swirls in his eyes and drink.

*

Nose ring,

Racing jacket, off the shoulder.

Standing next to a stranger.

*

Red leather,

Stares in her coffee.

Satisfaction comes across

Her face.

Balanced on one foot,

Phone keeps on ringing,

Mandarin oranges,

A start, a break, a reward.

*

A teething ring,

A fierce look of concern,

He's a little potentate.

*

Booming voice,

String tie, silver tips,

Record sales, mounting up,

Brand-new shoes.

I'll give you a shout-out.

Later,

Whoop, whoop, whoop,

Call me when you can,

Soon.

*

He's really slimmed down,

Strange forces at work,

Dust to dust, in perfect health.

*

Shirt logo,

Baby's cry, wonder why,

Did you say local or loco?

*

Sack of goodies, fudge bars, cookies,

Whipped-cream canister sputters and pops.

Two phones at once, Casual banter,

Tiger pattern pants, black jacket.

*

Crushed ice in their drinks.

Serious thoughts,

Presentation is everything.

*

Cargo pants, sits alone,

Fast talker, bald spot,

Can't recall what she said.

*

Her own bedroom, tear in the cloth,

Convenient case of anesthesia.

You have to stand for something.

A pregnant belly, a full sugar bin.

*

Hold on tight,

Has anyone ever seen the indistinct?

A new beard.

*

Do not back down now,

Go for a stroll,

Take a long walk, see what's out there.

*

Impressive profile, Furry mustache.

Vinyl vest, Arm waving.

Loud voice.

Crumpled-up work sheet,

Hands behind her back,

Wire-frame granny glasses.

*

She gives the kid a fresh bottle,

A shot, a drop, a slug,

Oh, my head.

*

Clicking heels, twinkling eyes.

Wrinkled pants, double doors.

Shopping bags.

Soy.

Reading aloud, as he walks,

He blows his nose,

Sneeze,

Blows his nose,

Sneeze.

*

Wringing of hands, squinting eyes,

No one likes to be singled out,

Some do.

*

Where are you located?

What are your dreams?

A critical time for clues.

*

Plenty of RAM,

An upturned face, both feet up,

It means freedom for some.

Double mocha, Sky blue hat,

Deep in thought,

Glasses on a braided cord.

*

The uncertainty principle,

Crying, elastic bands,

Desire.

*

Vest for bad weather,

Cable-knit sweater,

Your lyin' eyes,

Ha, ha, ha.

*

What's a muddy color?

Morning rain. silky black jacket,

Life and death.

Getting older, larger middle,

Short attention span, football weekends.

*

Pendant round her neck,

Buttons on her headscarf.

Saucer for a cookie.

*

He wipes his brow with his fingers,

The splashboard, a sort of protector.

*

It's not a spoon,

Did you say dread?

Followed by a quick little leg kick.

Cracks in the wall, full beard,

Slight yawn, bulging backpack,

Something stuck in the teeth.

*

Sounds like poetry,

Lovely handwriting

With character,

A brief scowl.

*

Receptacles, protrusions,

Splinters, and shards,

The Panama Canal.

*

Her fingers buried in her pants,

A business call, accidental spill.

The hunt and peck system.

Foot twitch, a nod, a smile. a wince, a tattoo.

*

A list of desires, get out of town,

No time for that, Oh, that's true.

*

Nose hairs, nosy neighbors,

Remove the chairs,

Stand erect.

The Swedes are right.

*

Clodbuster boots,

Sudden thunderstorm,

A bad answer for everything.

Wet grass in the sunshine,

Sparkly glasses case,

Software applications.

*

Lime green acoustic tiles.

One man

Counting his fingers with a grin.

*

Floppy hat and shiny face, chin whiskers,

You look like a detective.

Cool breeze, a hot day,

Yellow boxes of lemonade,

Happy talkers.

Colored lights, island motif,

Sports bra, thumbs up,

Don't try to hold me down.

*

Sherlock Holmes was here,

White shirt, tie, and vest,

Pockets full, brief note,

No pie.

*

Man, standing alone,

Holding an empty cup,

Obsidian bracelet.

A three-page San Antonio pamphlet,

Changing hands, turn and smile.

*

Bright-eyed little girl

Shows off her new straw,

Walking around a spill.

*

Blond streaks, Madonna-esque.

Wild ideas, runing loose,

Porcupine stew.

*

Cloche hat, tense forehead,

Tinted hair, over the eyes,

Long sleeves, by the door.

Leaning into the conversation,

Hand on thigh, ornamentation.

*

Two directions at once,

Rue the day,

Disgruntled, detached, delighted.

*

Four fingers on one hand,

Sits with his back to the room,

He's a legend.

*

Ducks in a row.

Kindness flows grows, and glows,

Fundamentals come and go.

A buddy of mine,

On permanent vacation.

Due any minute.

*

Fast moving thumbs, a freckled face,

Trumpets blare,

Funny smell in the air.

*

Tricks of the trade, Crossed arms,

Binoculars, a piece of string,

Add it up.

*

What's your frame of reference?

Knock before entering, three drinks at once.

Farther than before, no time to change,

Wipes his mouth, binged out,

Watch my bags.

*

Overflowing sugar bowl,

One lonely peanut,

Shadows on the wall.

*

Spilled coffee, Pulls out his keys,

Foreign accent, teading an envelope.

*

Large tub on a truck,

Ballet slippers from the mirror,

Victory wave.

Take it all in, Get it all down,

Don't miss a beat, lip balm, gum, smile.

*

Bastions of plenty,

Foodstuffs in short supply,

A gun in its holster.

*

A new trend, a gaudy gold thing,

It's a long story, sun in my eyes.

*

Slowly, she gets out of the car,

Yawning, he hollars out the orders.

Speakers in the ceiling, leather chairs.

Natural blond, a bandaged hand.

*

Drink it up, drink it down,

There is no hurry.

She takes her own sweet time.

*

A friendly neighborhood,

There's more here than meets the eye,

And good weather.

*

What if you were President?

See-through blouse, a long list of things to do.

*

The origin of absolutely everything,

How are you feeling?

I bet he's a rap star,

But he's put on a few pounds.

just like my ex.

*

Pouring honey slowly.

Wears a skeleton shirt,

Windblown. pants dragging.

*

He holds the paper

Out to read.

Twists, this way and that,

Looking, looking.

*

Reversible jacket, paper pile,

His face,

This far from the screen.

Wet hair,

Lines that didn't used to be there,

Two small drawings, done with care.

*

Ziploc bag for artwork,

Coveralls, box of paints,

Stern look. string of shells.

*

He is back, Google the name,

A good year, hot, hot, hot,

You can't hide that.

*

He's cracking his knuckles,

Is war the antidote to complacency?

Salt shaker missing,

Socket cover missing,

Dangling earrings. Silk skirt.

*

L-shaped room, tall pair, elbow to elbow,

Temporal bliss, purple scarf.

*

Old people, young ideas,

Kuala Lumpur, Blue jeans,

Subtle wink.

*

Hat pin, Bare neck,

Thermostat, People chat,

Back to back, Fingers tap,

Clap.

Tight-fitting pants,

A complicated hairdo,

Sibilant whispering.

*

Ratty hat,

Buzz-cut, no smile,

Bites her lip, shrug it off,

Heel, toe, heel, toe.

*

The wheels go round and round,

Two hands hold the strap,

Wash your hands, stand up straight.

*

My, oh my, dyed redhead,

Local press, jigh forehead.

Big gap in her teeth.

Exit sign on the blink.

People still get up and leave,

What's it good for?

*

Narrow tie, Checkered shirt,

Puffy parka,

Leather pockets, full of stuff.

*

National attention,

Demitasse,

Simple answers notwithstanding.

*

Two cops,

Leaves tracked in,

No stress,

A place to wind down.

Restless leg syndrome, celebrate youth,

She's flamboyant, stumbles a bit.

*

Painted tie, kumping jack,

Pencil, murder, tapioca,

Button down.

*

Pager on his belt,

Not a child anymore,

Purposeful manner.

*

Talking on the phone.

Here's to you, friend,

Tousled hair,

Eyes shut out the light.

Small animal,

Rhapsody in words,

I thought it was mine,

Maybe not.

*

Piece of music cuts the chatter.

A flickering screen, the greenest green.

*

How can I tell the truth?

Bright lights, imagination,

Peaceful places.

*

Crystal earrings, I smell danger,

Squeaky voice, Regular rodeo.

*

What if I die first? Large cup of tea,

Hug and a kiss, not enough time.

*

Baggy pants, Hearing aids,

Passing cars, painted toes.

*

Pair of flats,

Magazine stacks,

Any ego is a big ego.

*

Sunglasses on her forehead,

Sweet as can be, no interruptions.

Apron strings, hanging down,

Kindred spirits, rag for spills,

Fast service.

*

Crumpled refuse in a barrel,

Sunlight blanket, like a tablecloth.

*

Floating tea bags,

Vanilla.

Purple stocking cap,

A kiss on the lips.

*

Muscles on top of muscles.

Rings on every finger,

Thin gold chain.

Soft-soled shoes, satin hat,

Baby in a numbered jersey,

Start again.

*

Bright skies above, Sore arm throbbing,

Red-faced apology, Time to go.

*

Poised to leap, Look at a map,

Make your best argument,

Doesn't matter.