

On the Moon and Other Poems

Tom Murphy

On the Moon

What would Jello do
on the moon as Ralph Waldo¹
says "forget those 12 men's² trash

it only exists in your mind
and behold the specter
blue earth rise beyond gray hill mounds"

"you theological freak, see the polar ozone holes,
mushroom clouds rise, that's how Nietzsche
read you, hilarious Hitler invoked him"

"I do not know those men,
do they role Hermes dice?"³
"They're not gods or men, they're Devo,⁴

corporate clowns with triggers, ballistic websites
capping rainforests for profit, stating self-reliance
dogma, moon-dust now

as earth-dust will be
graviton free"
"as I sit above you miss read"

"you mean,
as you pontificate,
people die in your name"

¹ Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1882). Transcendentalist, who wrote "Nature," "The American Scholar," "The Divinity School Address," and "Self-Reliance" among other famous writings.

² Refers to the trash left on the moon of the twelve American Astronauts between 1969-1972.

³ In Emerson's "Experience" he states that, "Some heavenly days must have been intercalated somewhere, like those that Hermes won with dice of the Moon, that Osiris might be born" (255).

⁴ Devo (1976-1984), new wave band who claimed, "We are not men, we are Devo," in order to state that they had evolved to a mechanical humanistic plateau of hybridity.

Manqué USA *in noxa esse*

Which-a-paw hands deliver the caress
 the nose pick or shat wipe
 dexterous
 in protest
 cowed

 Selection of choice
 morsels
 agog
 from lovability
 masticate slowly
 swirl blood to view
 legs dangling
 a meal of fortune
 a movement of necessity
 this nonce a reminder *rerum*
 cookies et paintings delved

The length and breadth are yours
 cradle it, coddle it, *id est te sua*

Such a machine that Lincoln became
 from hemorrhage be speckled lilac pillow
 trans from Ford's theater into floating arms
 tarmaced with big ol' rubber bands
 roving seamen & merovum
 with presidential credenza
 The snorting bush, there's mimesis of humanity
tabulae novae begins with *antebellum* thumb puppets
 buffoonery of my captain clap ton

The banausic interlocution
 de megaphone
 polices the borders

how many niggles today
 felicific beach rapes
 peregrines reaved
 boofs of purchase
 kid starsearch for pedophiles
 monica unmask men
 the rapacious who serve as liberators
 of mary horse dung house

rummy rants:

Talos jacere Scooby Doo

capping black gold for capitals own good

cutting cedar trees for Uruk's own good

off the top of the ropes

Humbaba clotheslines Enkidu

con isotope

Monocular babes wander the crystallized sand

ladies and gentlemen, this embedding sponsored by

Gilgamesh, the software that excretes blood from the eyes

Gil Ga Mesh, the next best net server

used by the army's lowest common denominator

intelligence

Now back to the mockumentry

"No one has a head bigger than

Buddy Ebsen"