

children, churches and daddies literary magazine free poetry sampler

the spoken word

poetry from the editor of
children, churches and daddies
literary magazine

free

<http://scars.tv>

Janet Kuypers
<http://www.janetkuypers.com>

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TOO FAR

When he met me
he told me
I looked like
Kim Basinger
long blonde locks
but as time
wore on I knew
I wasn't her
and I could never
be her and I was
never good enough
thin enough
pretty enough
I got a perm
straightened my
teeth
bought a wonder
bra but it wasn't
doing the trick
I bought slimfast
used the stair
stepper ate rice
cakes and wheat
germ but I wasn't
thin enough I
only dropped
twenty pounds
so I went to the
spa got my skin
peeled soaked
myself in mud
wrapped myself
in cellophane
bought the amino
acid facial creams
but I knew they

didn't really
work so I went to
the doctor got my
nose slimmed
my tummy stapled
my thighs sucked
thought about
getting a rib or two
removed
like Cher
but I figured
they've got to
be there for
something
and hey, that's
just going
too far

HEADACHE

whenever i get a headache
it's right behind my eyebrows
and it's a dull, constant ache

so whenever i say i have a
headache
eugene takes my hand
and uses acupuncture:

he pushes his thumb
right in the middle of my palm.
the pain disappears almost

immediately. but eventually
i have to tell him to stop
pressing my hand, that my

hand now hurts. he lets go,
and the headache, almost
immediately, comes back.

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MORE THAN WE SHOULD HAVE

when i think of him i usually think about the drinking

actually, i never think of him as drinking
come to think of it

i just think of him as drunk

i can't even remember seeing the drinks in his hand
but his perception of the world is always altered

but someone reminded me tonight

of when he would work outside in the the cold Chicago winters
and he would come back with his moustache frozen
and there would be little icicles hanging
down toward his mouth

and then i thought of

when i waited with him once at the airport
because we were picking up someone
and we sat in the shrimp cocktail lounge
and he drank, and ate, and i waited

and as we left

we tried to pay the expressway toll with pennies
but some of the coins fell onto the street
and we had to throw more change at the machine

we paid more than we should have
i'm sure we did

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