

## Marie Annharte Baker / THREE POEMS

### yuppie begging bowl

passerby please note us  
stuck on camera lens close up  
pray our your shell out fills  
latte foam bowl slow mo  
cash flow scene slow pan  
cut broke balance fixated  
roll plastic survivance level  
bank machine movie stake out

treaty bowl number one  
fun filled topped up intrigue  
warranty less years but ears  
clear new diction air words  
cotton swab stuck syndrome  
block drumming manifesto

step up to bowl number two  
white shiny to let us bowl  
real tight ass titan squirm  
condo minimum convenience  
bowling down alley strikes  
we're good check the gate  
missing heirs women split

retreat into nightmare

spun twist of braid cavity  
brain belonged to girl corpse  
half buried her moss surround hole  
bark dress torn from the waist up  
she remains a stump obscure site

brown shoes on island path  
he stopped by tree accidentally  
her resting position disturbed  
bush skirt pulled off such an  
inescapable hurry to get off

she was a tree who speaks  
ghost existence by the pond  
timber haunts present loss  
no one in particular grieves  
murders happen even hundreds  
tracks of mystery dream killer  
mistake I wear brown shoes today  
pond will not cop exact brand  
generic shoes wade water edge  
broadcast news shoes squeak  
intrudes landscape city retreat

evidently lone male goose resident  
had no particular partner until  
female duck dropped by  
built nest and laid eggs  
goose became surrogate father  
matted drake feathers remain  
close to path around pond  
brown frog jumps out to pose  
pause enough to let me examine  
spotted back admirable skin

investigative clue is diamond shape  
rock two directions pointed out  
surface is rust ochre underneath  
I detect small bear icon sideways  
probably duck feathers float down  
further witness as eagle figure flies  
beak hold of brand new baby otters  
faint women dance as I squint closer  
turn rock over to find hints of tipis  
fossil leaves imprint takeover

experts on precipating events  
horse tails are elder plants on the island  
under the tree shade dead stumps surmise  
brown shoes took the trees away planted  
surrogate trees I deveined this disaster  
not as gloomy as Emily Carr painting

brown frog feet swim circles in pond  
otters are making quite a comeback  
brown paws walk by Otter Pond now  
upon return to city imperative I find  
more women craft hope hype homey  
Elvis Presley impersonator dream catchers

what do we mean “we”

LR government hired gun informed Tonto his ploy  
Tonto had no recourse but to install silver bullet into chaps  
playful chap was he she certain skin buckskin curtain Tonto  
head pokes out defiant frown checking audience number  
smart spied on representation Tonto wise enough to tell all  
twilight lemon lime light enlightens up inner Tonto guise  
later on same day Tonto and LR duked it out balancing out  
hey what's with the loin cloth behind mask John Wayne rave  
Tonto and LR exchange fisted cuff connections in similar ad  
promotional paradise on violence with vigilance holiday cruise  
why anger will not allow laugh tears to cascade cheeks iffy  
so much for uncritical masses who fear dysfunctional habitual  
nun and Tonto in movie premiere comfort zone velvet rope off  
must watch popcorn closely nuns do outreach spank behinds  
meanwhile LR that satiated ingrate orders surreal pizza solo  
after thrown up anticipation wanes nothing distracts disabled  
stoic smile except Tonto spits sporadic unpopped kernels  
dental care avoidance wise move on his part delays decay  
LR greedy unmasked what they don't know hurts awful  
finally ka ching registers fades out slow to reach climax  
grapple with self fumble other fingers dislodge vibration  
stops a sec looks into hidden camera to wave hi to cousins  
damn one bullet strays this way obvious silver mine forgery  
across roads ditch superhighways straits a bridge looms ahead  
laser red ruby red earring light glimpse penetrates darkness  
wow Ferlinghetti dazzled fans in west coast performance  
City Lights publications boss proved upbeat generation denial  
safety in shadows we want theatre aisles to remain doubt free