

## Bill Bissett / SIX POEMS

### STARTIN TH FIRE

th attainment th glowing  
card, blowin in yr fingers blowin onto th coals  
sparks, kneeling by th dark cold fire god  
yr hands in th orange red colord flame dont feel  
a thing cept th cold in yr toes yr breath ovr n  
ovr agen keep sendin it out bfor yu catch it th  
snow light all around yr eyes  
movin th logs th fire speek when yu do  
goin out to chop sum mor wood now th prayers  
in my arms th erth turning all ovr thru us our  
selves th one body moving

## TH FIRST DESIGN

it takes just about  
one tree fr a weeks  
fire wood

our arms thru th branches

ther was a moose out  
ther last three nights  
calling

nd one night last  
week pack a wolves howling  
ther cries cummin from back  
a ways ovr th pond sum funny  
clouds passin ovr th moon  
a strange charge nd th blood  
was up high thru th dreams

yu can see th frost in th air  
snow cummin

yu put on yr shirt in  
th early morning nd its a  
sheet uv ice ovr yr skin

yr blanket uv hair kiss th  
blew tits rise in yr mouth

th white snow flyin all aroun  
th warmth th trees green

fingr th sky

## EATING TH SOUP

th watr is boiling now  
nd what yu feel at th back  
uv yr neck is a wind nd  
rain storm th trees are  
raging thru th early night  
evrything wet and a small red  
light in th east at th end uv  
th flat lands btween th  
mountains look like wings

## SALMON HERRING AND TH SUN

th flowr is beautiful say ths joints ok too th night  
is long nd lingrs th trees rising th fever eases  
nd ourselves inside th chambr drive into th

blu sky th trees leaning tord th red pink nd orange yellow  
light goin ovr th side uv th snow watr earth

we cud eithr what day is today wednesday on  
friday or leev it til monday yeh leev it  
to monday or sum day aftr that evn

is ths writing all th gods eye rising in th clearing  
nd listning to th stones jam drinking tea tuning up th  
sounds

red coals on th smoke th smoke rising yr lips take  
in th shining earth

th lettrs cummin aftr all th  
storm when aftr it cums yr hand n th pen  
mooving th drum cum ovr to th mountain

yuv got a word for it ethr yes n th energy cum  
thru th sand nd rock th serene statues uv zeno from  
th ocean

now oranges is in yr mind th floor rising in  
th chambr th tabul cloth n th harmonica guitar  
piano goin ovr n ovr th streem uv th

flow climbing th lengthy discourse btween  
planets n what floating stars opn up  
yr head or galaxees

yu see a buffalo on th wall nd theyre goin  
ovr n ovr th chorus th notes spinning tying up  
th bag nd lifting yu off yr chair

similar as yu go pull mor hot watr  
off th stove for tea nd put anothr  
log in

## CHILE

today they think they got allende  
sure his body his blood his eyes  
they got like meat running  
ovr th probably ancient marbul floor  
uv th palace built long bfor ther was a  
man to be in it built long bfor thr was  
allende since they had long really beleevd  
as our govrnmentz sumtimes do as what is con  
fused in all uv us sumtimez duz that evrything is  
an ego powr trip they think they killd th spirit  
too but they did sumthing in th darkness uv th  
soul uv hate nd slaughtr that they shud need  
th poor peopul to bleed that they shud need  
th poor peopul to bleed th change will  
cum th change will cum nd thrs mor  
uv us poor peopul than them nd  
we ar lerning how

# IN NOVA SCOTIA TH PEOPUL CALL SHIT HOUSES HOUSUS UV PARLIAMENT

th peopul ther yu heer em say  
aftr nite fall nd theyve eatn  
if thr lucky gess iul go out to  
th house uv parliament or to th  
hp fr a whil evn respektabul  
peopul yul heer say that if thr  
outside th town in the country or  
sumthing whr thr isint any indoor  
plumbing kind uv says it rite thr  
th peopul squeezez by th british nd  
rite up to th throat by th amrikans  
japanese too nd exactly by thr own  
pigs ther own rich sellin it makin  
us thr plan into 1984 robot creeps  
muttrin bout nashunal unity all a  
time whil we work our guts out in  
amrikan plants amrikan evry thing  
mines blah blah in our own country  
nd if th factory is canadian its  
no bettr lookit th widows uv new  
foundland 1300 dollrs fr deth  
compensashun fr silicosis nd th  
welfare rips evn that off alcan  
nd th peopul cant b unified if  
we dont own what we do our own  
resources food cultur ideas  
media th pigs in th big shit  
house in ottawa say we they  
say we who we

they got a sause calld houses  
uv parliament for meat at the  
tabul hp sause it sure tastes  
shitty too