

I walked to work today—I, uh, rained + wind. my umbrella had a hole in it so water dripped onto my hand. my shoes waterlogged + my pants too. I felt truly fucked over by my umbrella. tho I enjoyed the trees, who were kind to me, + the egrets + the great blue heron crowded secretive in a pool beside the river. no mist today

AUSTIN MILES

is not

I've
seen my
mother cry
before, but not
the tears that glittered
on her cheeks the rosy
evening we parked at Devils
Tower. She asked me how any-
one could look at this beautiful world
and not believe in God, because this Earth
is bursting with miracles: sunsets like
smearred paint, bird's nests surviving a storm,
scraped knees healing pink. Wyoming
is smooth as a newborn's brow,
except for this, rising
red from the prairie.
How? my mother
asked me. Don't
you see
Him?

ANNABELLE SMITH




God in Wyoming

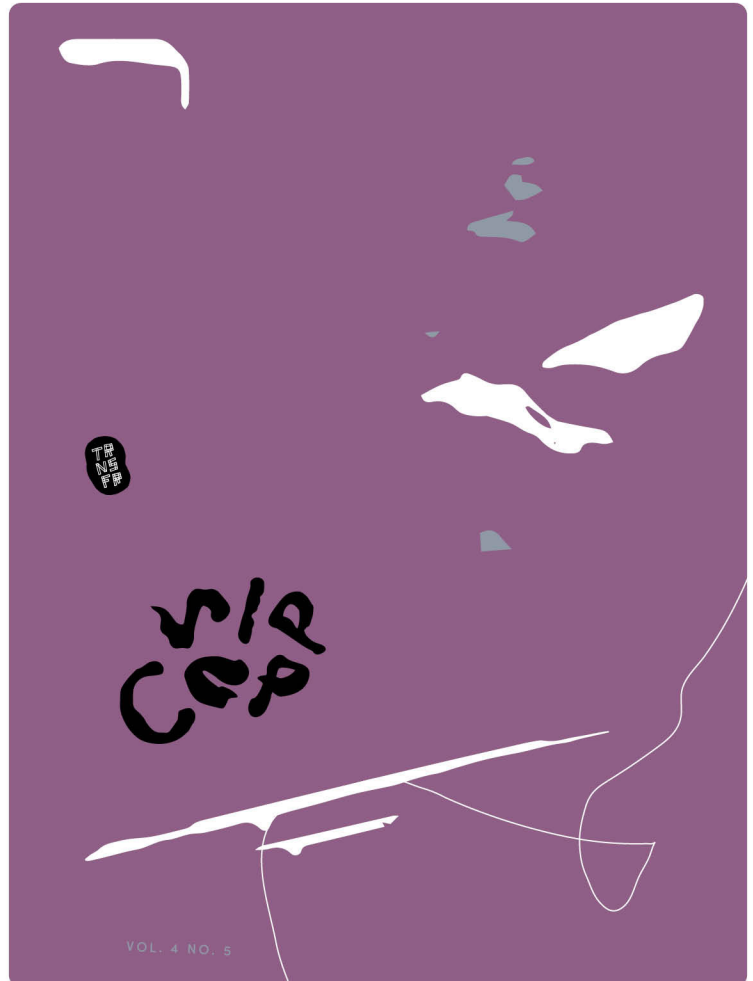
Richard Kostelanetz
Austin Miles
Annabelle Smith

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RICHARD KOSTELANETZ

Money's less evil than passions for it.
One minute ago is already long past.
No reward is offered for finding yesterday.
Good luck brings happiness and happiness good luck.
Angels are the friends you've never had.
Trust your instincts before you get discouraged.
Teachers learn the same material many times.
Whoever learned to spell "forever" never stopped.
A "light eater" starts eating at sunrise.
The mechanics of living keep life alive.
Denying temptation comes easily to scrupulous people.
A boat on land sinks into stasis.
Many human beings practice what they censure.
Diffuse minds imagine; a focused mind accomplishes.
Whoever writes badly differently might be original.
To nonsense he gave his best ears.
Marriage changes the dynamics of living together.
A smile's money that adds face value.
Better's better without the experience of worse.
Whenever dissected, both frogs and humor die.
One sign of senescence is forgetting wisdom.
At charity some people stop at nothing.
Love's a polite epithet for carnal desire.
Some lovers are just a passing fiancé.
The best guest knows when to leave.
Before you sell your soul, consider renting.
The safest throw of dice is away.
Memory is no less selective than history.
Nothing's "foolproof," because fools are deceptively clever.
Talking to oneself's a cure for insomnia.
Spurn advice from anyone with blatant faults.
A book worth annotating is worth buying.
Best books are friends imprisoned between covers.
Politicians are jokes until they get elected.
For whomever "has everything," consider an antibiotic.
Whomever never forgets has nothing worth remembering.
Whoever exercises regularly will die healthier.
Whoever speaks unfamiliar truth finds negligible competition.
The only secret securely kept is forgotten.
The quality of today others can change.
A self-made man hasn't followed instructions.
The rat race's winner's still a rat.
Purportedly insoluble problems implicitly offer great opportunities.
Whoever's dead has incidentally kept a secret.
Everyone's heart has reasons that are unreasonable.
Whoever's his own worst enemy has competition.
Born in simplicity, most die of complications.
My highest ambition is what I am.
Loving's the ultimate test of everyone's humanity.
Misfortunes are negligible if you forget them.
The surest insurance against sin is cowardice.
Most of what's "unthinkable" has been thought.
To truth, no single path best expedites.
Paranoia depends upon having just enough facts.
Most of the future resembles the present.
Talking's opposite's not listening but waiting.
Purportedly charming people depend upon others' appreciation.

Some learn more from reading than living.
Solemnity can be pretended, but humor not.
No radical idea was ever completely suppressed.
About every hero a tragedy is written.
Fascists censor appearance as well as speech.
Life's all memory, except for the present.
Unfree media can't possibly tell a truth.
Whoever lives in the future courts immortality.
A greater truth's caveats are also true.
Semblances of the Last Judgment happens daily.
Not even a failure befriends other failures.
Time's the teacher that terminates its pupils.
Consider intelligence the inadvertent profit of failure.
Explosive is a truth kept to oneself.
Even the truest wisdom can be misunderstood.
Charity can be a disguise for self-interest.
Hate's an inevitable result of all victories.
Dare not tell others that you're wiser.
What we can't understand we can't possess.
Trust whoever talks dispassionately about his faults.
Rationality depends more upon courage than intelligence.
Etiquette shouldn't affect your thinking and imagining.
What must be learned isn't necessarily taught.
Incompletion's the risk of a succinct aphorism.
Whoever relentlessly pursues pleasure might be overtaken.
Experience more truly measures age than years.
Some talk to reveal; others, to conceal.
The function of cowardice is suppressing imagination.
Susceptibility to flattery is an incurable ailment.
Contrary information threatens faith more than reason.
A true scare's more memorable than advice.
Without freedom to dissent, assent is fake.
From aphorisms, readers understand more than learn.
A sharp tongue becomes sharper with use.
Mathematicians follow rules without fully understanding them.
Lower comedy is common; higher comedy, obscure.
Esthetic truths can be felt, if unexplained.
Trust your eyes over other people's ears.
A literate person regards experience as allusion.
A reader reads as a cow grazes.
Art's highest function is stimulating further art.
Whoever watches himself too closely gets bored.
"Gossip" devoid of sexual innuendo isn't gossip.
Individuals experienced at giving advice become smarter.
Most humorless people don't know they're humorless.
From low places come many high styles.
Upsetting a psychiatrist is a laudable ambition.
To performers, laughter's more authentic than applause.
Style's more permanent and economical than fashion.
Modern times are humane and more murderous.
Respect any truth that can't be mentioned.
When people are denied choice, thinking's courageous.
People aspiring beyond their means prompt progress.
Be a cadaver who makes morticians cry.
No one can be "lucky" without trying.
Only through publicity is virtue widely recognized.
A great book reread changes the reader.
He swore a rainbow knocked him out.
Personality you retain when lights go off.
Professional artists make careers of their lives.
Behind every finished poem is another poem.