

Cadence

The American Review of Jazz & Blues
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THE VAGABOND ANTHOLOGY



"... it's a little like a time bomb. i was really afraid to open it, to turn the pages, to heft it. the logo and the machine, front and back, inside, all those eleven years. . . look what you've done, my man! 11 years. 25 issues. and it comes through the grinder this black and white rock, you can hurl it against the wall and it don't break you can step on it and it doesn't collapse you can pound it on the desk and everyone in the room gets quiet. the book! cover to cover. the smell of the pages. taking off the jacket and smelling along the gold spine and down across the bottom edge of the front flap. the pictures. the faces of the fucking poets. shit, who needs the poems. the damn faces. look at all those beautiful fucking faces! look at us, how beautiful we are, damn, we're a bunch of movie stars, all the poetry and beauty in our faces, those eyes, the smiles, the hands lighting cigars, holding pool cues and cigarettes, yours at the end around that pabst, forearms on knees, bending forward, ready to laugh up at it all, jeezus! the whole damn thing is just beautiful. i won't go into the poets assembled, the poets you've gathered into a fold of your own and present in the disguise of their guise, from chuck barkowsky to kirk rabbitson to marcus j. gallopingrapes, kryssleowowski, bump & jerry, great blazing balls of blackness, attorney for the defenselevy, jack missed the train, steve kowshit, john beenit and twistit, lyn lynlynn, gerda ferdafoldingpen, kent kent kent, or won't he-willie, john i am not related to, ronald bartholameow kerchief can he, to all the rest of them, assembled like a jury, a lineup, the 1928 boston red sox, the list of passengers of the titanic, the donner party, etc. what a bunch of names. man i want some copies just to throw at cars. i want to organize a small band of guerilla poets and rush into a bank or a grocery store or a restaurant or a taco bell or safeway and tell everyone to put their hands up, and quickly read a poem to them out of the book, leave in a fast gallop with a copy of the book thrown at their feet, guerilla poets strike again, a harmless band of renegades who read from the rich and write to the poor. vagabonds all..."

Marcus J. Grapes
Los Angeles
June 12/78



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