

## REFLECTIONS

FROM NCCU:

BY MARY BONANON

### A PREMISE OF LOVE

Lately, I have seen your countenance mirrored in the impoverished wanderings of my fancy. And I wondered if I was ever truly in love with you, I wonder, assuming you were of the same sentiment, if our love could have come to fruition. If my recollections have been so grossly distorted that I am assuming too much of the relationship, then it is I who must suffer. If our relationship, on the contrary, was in fact a blossoming of an ethereal couplet, then surely some unseen force has demed us the eternal sufferers. Yet for fear of being too resolute, I must re-examine if possible my memory of our relationship determining consequently, if I was in love with you, or in love with the idea.

We sat comfortably in Middle English, high-backed chairs, dressed in royal blue

velvet, and watched the fireplace with irresolute flames lingering beneath the logs. Everything about this small cottage was practical. Books, voluminous, lined flowered wall-paper, a stereo component domed a tiered shelf, over albums of various moods. Calmness pervaded the atmosphere. Although you were in the next chair, designing some magazine layout, and I was reluctantly trying to read Kafka, I felt at one with you. There was no need to voice any quiet declarations of love. Yes, you were turning your head, you smiled, the left cheek blushing from the flames in the fireplace — or was it from that same inner glow which warmed me—that feeling of assurance one receives when there is a someone who can share his problems, most of all, a someone who can share in those delicate moments of

visor of strength that prevented my seeing, or thinking, or feeling anything, except—that I loved you!

Still I must evaluate this premise of love further. Remember the time we toured historic London; the penny arcade, the wax museum, the hotdogs in Piccadilly, the throb of aching feet, the exuberance in your stride? What a marvelous day! On the way home our moods shifted; we became melancholic. What did you feel? I was so happy, I felt it could not last. I wondered how long euphoria could caress me in her fantasy. You teared silently . . . Were these tears of happiness, or tears of confusion over futurity. I was profoundly moved to hope for an eternal union. At that moment I loved you with every wish and with every blessing of Eros and Venus.

—Fletcher Allen

### RAMBLINGS

I cannot be bothered With a calculating Mind, too cold for A pulsating heart, I like to laugh

Now and then We hang like This somber threads If we break I'd rather do it Laughing.

Money is a ticket

To power trips Reeling clouds Of hysteria.

I'd rather be A trifle less And achieve the Me Than be what others Think I am And lose myself.

Every morning My feet have to choose Between slippers and shoes Neither wins.

Don't make me run That is beyond me Go ahead I just want to live.

Let's liberate our images Think of boys in shocking Pinks and girls in Olive drabs

There's not much difference Between war and peace Not now Values are confused History waits.

The Eternal was is will be Man was, is, but will not be For ever.

### WHO AM I

To hold The world between Paper and pen?

### FORGE

Down through a deep maze Lost in a world of browns and greens, No human life—

The only sound is the thundering In the chest and the Escaping winds from quivering nostrils, The perched earth under lightning swift feet. The encompassing atmosphere is a dense blue. A twinkling intention of light appears.

The deep maze vanished a while back. It is cool as spring water here Silent as a graveyard. Will I still be pursued? Will it rain and wash away the tracks? Just where is this place I have come to?

—Carolyn E. Green

### EVENING DREAMING

She drifts, Descending deep into her reservoir Of empty memories To wander through wastelands of past vanity. Her life was fruitless, futile: Her veined hands Cupped her sodding head As her thoughts of the past Faded into dreams of what could have been.

—Robert Graham

### DESTINY

I want to take my life Into the plans of my hands, To mold it, to shape it Into an image that is my own.

—Robert Graham

## DURHAM NATIVE GETS MASTERS DEGREE FROM HOWARD UNIV. SAT.

Miss Loretta E. Johnston, the daughter of Mrs. Verdella E. Johnston and the late Rev. D. A. Johnston received the Masters Degree in Urban studies at the Commencement

exercises from Howard University, Washington, D. C. on Saturday, May 12. In June 1971 Miss Johnston received the Undergraduate Degree from Howard Univer-

sity. She attended the Durham City Schools; Pearson Elementary, Whitted Junior High and Hillside High. Miss Johnston is presently employed as a Child Development Specialist for FLOC Incorporation in Washington, D. C.

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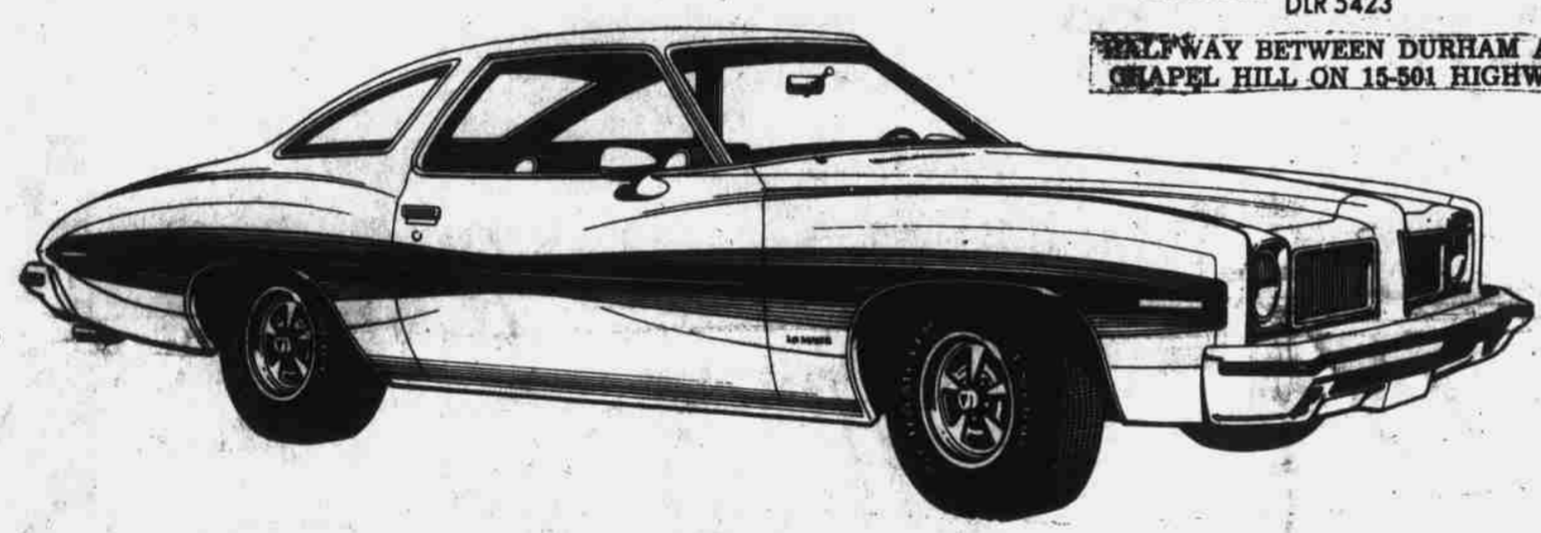
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