

## THE ARTS

### Poet's Corner

#### *Women's Liberation*

(and men's too)

Virginia Slim and Walter Lee  
had a fight  
Virginia knocked Walter  
clean out of sight  
he came and he went  
she came  
and she stayed  
neither one of them knew

which one was being  
played  
so she came and she went  
he came  
and he stayed  
and neither one of them cared  
which one was being  
played.

#### *New Hope Baptist Church*

Hear, Oh Lord, when  
we cry with our voices  
for that was much, much  
more than we could  
tell  
Christ hangs from  
the rafters  
while the devil  
weaves and slips  
between the pews  
pulling on the cuffs  
of polyester pants

and the hems of too tight  
dresses  
That was much, much more  
than we could  
tell  
but see how far we've  
come, dear Jesus.

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#### *Miss Ginny*

By S. L. BROOKS  
11-9-77

MISS GINNY

the tree-lined red and road  
widens at the clearing  
exposing a two-story manorhouse  
owned by the Barker's  
Miss Ginny and her husband  
share-crop the land  
and keep nature's wildness  
from overrunning the buildings

She was 5 feet tall  
dipped snuff  
sang "Take God to Straighten 'Em"  
when the spirit touched her  
whipped a black snake's head to a  
pulp  
when she found him  
stealing eggs in her henhouse

when her husband died  
she left the farmlife  
even though her eldest grandson  
could manage the place  
... besides the Barkers were  
business folk  
she moved with her children  
who were strangers  
and who shared her amongst them-  
selves  
only for her \$75 Social Security check

S.L. Brooks  
11-9-77

#### *What Can I Say?*

You are most sweet!  
(and I love you for it)  
Don't you know that you are fine?  
And that when I need someone  
I look for you?  
(and you know I love you for that!)  
Por que? (that's "why?" in espanol)  
Because you are the one!  
The only one for me.  
And I wouldn't trade you for anything  
or anyone.  
Because you are what's happenin'  
with me  
¡Que pasa! (that's "what's hap-  
penin'")  
And whats happenin' is you and me  
now  
(most definitely)  
(and I'll always love you for it)  
Square business, love, I'm serious;  
I'll always love you for it.

By D. J. McCray

#### *A Private Message*

A Private Message

I wonder why  
I changed my mind.  
It might have had something  
to do with you.  
I don't understand myself  
nor why I like you so  
But I do know that I did  
change my mind  
and I don't feel  
bad about it.  
You don't understand me  
nor do I understand you  
Yet, somehow we're attracted  
to one another

and upon our attraction for each other  
I changed my mind;  
and I think I'm glad  
I did so.  
And I know that you don't love me,  
or that I don't love you,  
And it doesn't seem to matter,  
Because, what really matters  
is what goes on between  
you and me;  
And that I really like you;  
And that I changed my mind  
and I feel sort of  
good about it.

By D. J. McCray