

# With Respect to a Fellow Poet

*by* Angela Kubinec

I asked this poet-man  
to inscribe  
the book I purchased  
from him

But he did not like  
what he assumed were my  
intolerant politics

Since I by  
unasked for birth  
reside in a place where  
the geography of racism is scorched  
into the psyche of an entire

Nation

Whether  
it exists in a person  
or not

So he  
being so fucking  
clever wrote a half-drunken  
slur on the page  
and signed it

Maybe now  
he feels like things

are a little more even

But I have  
the book  
and his signature upon it

