

# new world

*by Gary Percesepe*

all that brown hair unbuttoned  
you above me beneath me beside me beyond me  
love licked us  
like running wolves

then slowly drained of all our dreams  
we faced the ordinary wicked days  
alone but unforgotten  
stripped of all that had been

snow tires gripped pavement  
in an endless skid  
long slow kitchen kisses  
fights & hugs at the dishwasher

can memory freeze in place like this?  
as in death our deeds follow us  
your parted lips my eager tongue  
the heart soon followed

the living room sofa where you unbuttoned me  
wait, how can you occupy the sofa now?  
you sit there with your new lover  
pushed past pity into the new world

the poet amounted his affair  
summed it at five months  
licked his ice cream cone  
and melted

