

"To the Woman at the Red Edge Motel" was read by Garrison Keillor on NPR. Tom's poem, "Old Dollar" is published in his book, **Sad Jazz**. Tom Chandler is poet laureate of Rhode Island emertus. www.tomchandlerpoet.com

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Lynnie Gobeille is co-founder of the Origami Poems Project. Visit her blogsite: waiting.blogspot.com

Acknowledgements

Wadded in some gutter,
exhausted from keeping its end
of the bargain down decades
of fifty cent years,
one corner singed black
lighting some hack's cigar,
someone's wrong number
inked over the edge,
furtively jotted in some dark bar
out on long lonesome blacktop
that coursed across country
still open to dreaming
where someone met someone
and ordered more drinks and
spoke softly with meaning
by dimly lit neon
the lyrics to sax solos
wandering through
someone's sad jazz.

Old Dollar
by Tom Chandler

Lynnie writes, "I have always loved TC's *To The Woman at the Red Edge Motel* and the more I read it, the more I wanted to try and capture some of the language and experiences I'd witnessed while bartending out in Colorado in my youth."

easier to get naked
without worrying
about what He's gonna' think.
Oh, yeah
(he mutters in my ear)
it's just one man's opinion
but I'm here to tell you, honey
wine is God's little blessing in disguise.
And even though
I think he's condescending
even though
I'd just as soon
kick his tired old ass....
I smile...
◆
And I think:
Okay, maybe
some of what he's putting down here
some of this shit he's spreading
A little bit of wine
sure can make it easier
to fancy dance my way
around the room.

Bartenders Blues by Lynnie Gobeille

He says to me:
You girls, you sure do like your wine
And I think:
Okay, maybe he's onto something here.
He says:
Yeah, you ladies, love that vinefruit,
it opens you up to life,
makes it easier for a guy like me
to help you through the night.
He says:
(All swagger and cocksure attitude)
You like your wine.

Please recycle to a friend.

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Artwork by Tom Chandler

Origami Poetry Projects

The Red Edge Motel
by Tom Chandler © 2011

Bartenders Blues
by Lynnie Gobeille © 2011

The Red Edge Motel by Tom Chandler



Bartenders Blues by Lynnie Gobeille

A commemorative Origami book
For the event:

EKPHRASIS:

Art into Poetry = Poetry into Art

A collaborative exhibition between
Hera Gallery and the
Origami Poems Project

March 12—April 16, 2011

This book explores another example
of Ekphrasis: poem to poem

To the woman at the Red Edge Motel
by Tom Chandler

Ekphrasis: Bartender Blues
by Lynnie Gobeille

To the woman at the Red Edge Motel by Tom Chandler

Some tourist of love
in his cheap suit of longing
will elbow the bar
in the lounge of no last names,
dip his cuff accidentally
in your seven & seven
and ask you to dance
to the faint moan of muzak,
perfume your earrings
with breath mints and gin
as the lights grow yet dimmer
as his hand on the switch
hovers inches away
from the slick red edge
of your hungover heart
with its faded no vacancy sign.