



SLOWLY

Richard Denner

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D Press
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Cover art by the author

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for Marcie

Can we stay in orbit
without spinning out?
Can we touch
without getting a rash?
Lasagna and yogurt
baked together.

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Are you crazy?
I love you.
You love everyone.
There's only one you.
You're crazy.

.

Slowly, at a snail's gallop, we move
between the ocean and the moon.
You'd think we were kissproof.

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Living in the æther,
one another in the the other,
we're hiding from the void outside.

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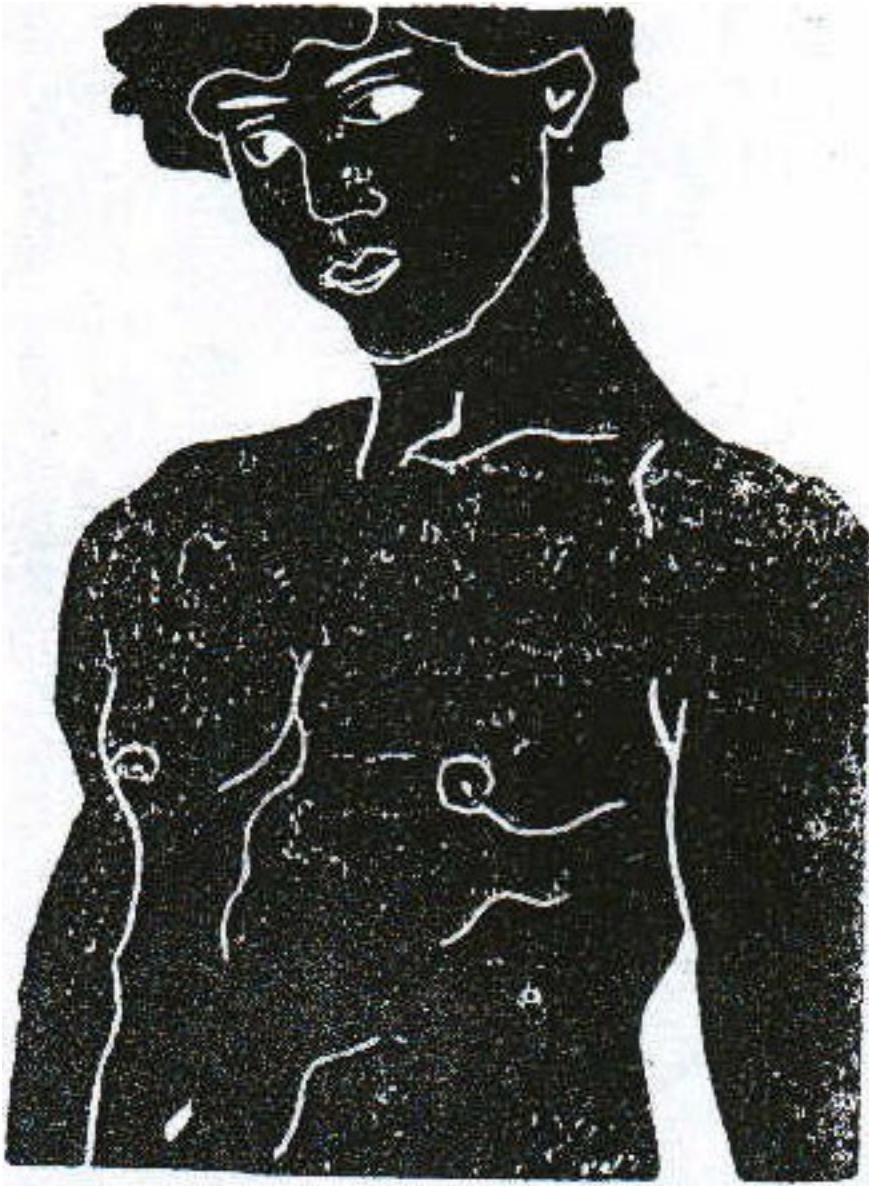
You're in your tower,
addled on Freud.
I hear the celestial choir
and beyond.

.

I'm going west.
Let's meet in the east.

.

New York's only the twelfth
most expensive place to live.
I'll get some special shoes
to live in when it's cold



I feel you close,
continuous, and on both sides.
I love you, I say.
Thank you, you say.
I'd have you stay,
but you ride away.

Why does the light dissolve
after we've parted?

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You're the breath of "the"
in Do The Right Thing.
You can swim more laps
than a black she-devil.

You can swim more laps
than I can write poems.
Let's melt with longer laps,
stronger strokes

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Riddled by love,
shot full of shafts,
I fly through the roof
into a night of stars.

Stay—like a star
until dawn.
Turn,
but return.