

“from gay to z” poetry manuscript

**on the dis-/appearance of
polar bears**

Columbus Cartier (Christ)
"bloody savages!"
Turtle Island
weeps

appropriated Lands
“The Indian Act”
forced assimilation

colonization reservations
residential schools—
government-sanctioned
genocide

stolen children: "take
The Indian out of 'em!"
unmarked mass
graves

contaminated drinking water
disparately higher rates of
morbidity/mortality

drowned polar bears
missing murdered women
tripled suicide rate

decolonization
reconciliation
tip of the iceberg of
healing

non-indigenous allies
collective enlightenment
hope for
the future

closet reversal

what is it like to be
straight ? don't you
worry about those who
hate ? when did you
know ? who did you
tell ? what do you
do on a
date ?

isn't AIDS a concern for
you ? what if God doesn't
like what you
do ? was your mother
strict ? your father
gone ? do you think
that anyone
knew ?

why don't you act like you're
gay ? and be normal in every
way ? you could live your life
without the strife
but just

not be

who
you
portray.

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Mö=

bi+

US

-stripped-

I*

fall for you as if I were
in a vertiginous dream π
lost in the dark punctuation of
your pupils • the hypothesis
of
your lips **H** through the quasi-
circularity of a figure-
eight I skate upon thin
skin ∞ *aware that I*
am
fumbling towards
infinite possibilities ∞
estimate the chirality of our
unequal equation \neq swing upon
un-
parallel bars \parallel yearn/burn for
sure signs of pure id then
drop-kick/needle-prick since our
gorgeous plurality cannot
be
contained/constrained/ex-
plained \neq won't be labelled/
fabled/disabled by calculating
looks of lustful envy **E** let us
twist
those one-hundred-and-
eighty degrees of
spun idiosyn-
crasies into a
one-
sided single-edged band
of non-orientation \odot
for our shared topological
driveway is an ill-paved
de-
praved heatwave we
meld into ad
nauseum **Z** and so—
yet again—
I*

*half-twist \Downarrow im-
pose upon
I* at top \Updownarrow ;
 \Downarrow attach

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The Unofficial Her & HiStory of The New World

*A long time ago...
Before the term "Family Values" ...
Before the labels Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender ...
Even before cocaine, Coca-Cola, Columbus,
(& Christ) ...*

There lived great Peoples
One with The Land and The Sea
Surviving with respect for all of Creation
Governed only by the needs of their Nation
and its children...

Free to be children—
laugh play cry jump hug—
Try on any face in society
male *and* female
without harassment
nor obligation

The elders sensed
which children were different—yet
did nothing—
allowing them to come into
their own experience

And when a certain path was chosen—
be it woman's
or man's
or both—

The Nation celebrated!

And if man was like woman
or woman like man
they were said to be of
Two-Spirit:
bearing the gifts of both woman *and* man
free to be

hunter gatherer shaman teacher...

Mother father son & daughter
living rightfully and truthfully
as who they really are.

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**the moment in
your arms**

it is wondering what your parents think
it's a part of me held in an art gallery
the drag queen prose I've read
in a redneck bar

quick quiet moans
what you ask me
oh nothing I say
just moaning

it is pleasure leaking from my throat
it's the climax after the climax when
we cuddle so closely we can
barely see each other

blank thoughts filled with
the feel of
you sleep nearing
mind reeling

the kiss on my head brings me
back I nuzzle in your
armpit breathing deeply
fully relaxed

it is the poetry between you and me
it's my arm falling asleep
so I apologize for getting up but I
must go write us down