

**So She Says**  
SIXFOLD Poetry Submission  
2018

## **I Already Gotta Husband**

I done dance marimba  
uke-le-le.  
Sweet boy lover boy  
hundred sing say.  
Sugar cake butter cake  
Sycamore sway,  
Pretty rain ova valley  
Like-a-duvet.

Milk moon  
Queen tune  
Star-seat sky.  
Big wing  
black wing  
Inda cloud fly.

Shush.  
Malove sound like:  
Alabama Muddy River  
Zula TipToe

Amen  
Amen  
I'ma say it again

Alabama Muddy River  
Zula TipToe  
Stay forever sugalover  
Boy don't go.

Zesty lemon chilepepper  
Spicy rice tree  
Wheat grass Virginia grass  
Tiger grass Free  
Left foot Right foot  
Da ting ting Be

We got nuttin'  
'less We got We.

## **Parasite**

I have weaseled my way into  
the guts of a peach,  
a fig,  
a fruit or  
red red meat,  
and bumped my head on the stone—

I was blind, too.

The worm wriggles  
a whole in the sky—

or dirt.

## Girls.

## GENESIS

He wanted to become a Priest,  
but he took all them girls instead.  
All them girls  
    and the maid,  
kissed them,  
gave them beds of gold,  
taught them  
    the rudiments of touch.

Him: CHIEF. Keeper of the Women.  
(The girls some fair young virgins).

## EXODUS

Them girls  
    in royal apparel,  
he stripped bare of leopard bodysuits or  
                    spandex purple pants,  
and with penetrating steam,  
    red-faced  
        opens his mouth (as if wishing to eat)  
            breathing up or down,  
    the body and the organs rubbing,

The Bull drives.  
He pours the Juice.

## NUMBERS

*Seven* them girls  
    1 the one selling her virginity for \$300,000  
    2 Naomi (from Harlem)  
    3 the leggy queen (too old)  
    4-6 the maid, your sister, Mother Earth  
    7 the mermaid (he loved her more than all the others)

7 received his gift:  
    The Venomous Worm  
        stinging againandagain

## JUDGES

Them girls

the Womb red with flame,  
Ripe  
fair fruits of earth.  
Their vast egg  
ripped from the follicle.

Them woman once strong by birth,  
Lifted up their Voice and wept again:

Let no man hurt our bodies.  
Poison infected me.  
Bruises.  
Beast of prey.

Hang him from a tree.

## REVELATION

He returns to the mother's house  
like a playful boy  
to yield the milk.  
Evidence destroyed.

Meanwhile:

the clouds wept ninety rivers  
the poison hung in the sun  
the breath lingered in the mouth, foul  
Extinguished were the lights of men.  
Extinguished were the lights of girls.