Photographs Taken from the El in Chicago

Lisa Higgins
College of DuPage, higgins@cod.edu

Follow this and additional works at: http://dc.cod.edu/plr

Recommended Citation
Available at: http://dc.cod.edu/plr/vol30/iss2/22

This Selection is brought to you for free and open access by the College Publications at DigitalCommons@C.O.D. It has been accepted for inclusion in The Prairie Light Review by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@C.O.D. For more information, please contact koteles@cod.edu.
I. “View from the Green Line, near Garfield Park”  
Color C Print, Large Format with High Definition

The back of the leaning two-flat is framed  
in the drapery of sheets and shirts hanging  
straight over ropes pulled swag  
from second-floor rail to razor-topped fence.

Junk on the ground so old it’s invisible  
to the black madonna and her disciple sitting on the painted gray stairs.

Holding the workbook open on his knees,  
the student of the West Side lifts a page  
and catches the slanted illumination of the sun.

II. “Untitled”  
Hand-colored Gelatin Silver Print

Homeless black man pointing to blood stain on pavement,  
mouth gaped in silent horror,  
gaped wide like a Greek thespian.  
Plastic Walgreens bag clutched in right hand.  
Blur of pedestrian in foreground.  
Grey-tone everything, except blood, red.

III.  
“Vessels”  
After Man Ray  
Black and White Photogram on Paper

Walking beside the cement columns  
in the shade of the dirty tracks  
your gaze angles up into bright sun.  
Close your eyes for the reverse exposure  
of a row of plastic bottles  
all upturned on CTA fence spikes.  
Opaque ghosts suspended in the dark sky.