# Ueda Fuko (上田風子)

# 1) Cherryπ

Help!

Peek-a-boo, I see you, and you and you.

I see you, but you don't ever see me

Even when I bite my lips in, swallowing down pain, scream

Till my hair turns red. You don't ever see me.

"Peek-a-boo, my sweet love, my angel, now let me cover your flushed cheeks with my chilled hands. Oh so cold, feels like my dazzling bones are going to pop. Oh, so cold, let me reach under there, some where

warmer down there.

You will be my tropical island vacation, but Ha!

Guess I will be your sick moose, your sick Muse

Go ahead--cry. Here, this blindfold should soak them up."

You left but I see you.

I see yours.

They are young yous-and I flinch

They are old yous - and I shiver

Those yous, who look to be kind--I still scream

I'll keep the lights on in my sleep

when my hair caresses my butt after a shower, I'll turn around with frozen fear. I'll never wear the same hair, same clothes, same street, nose, eyes, scent, tears or smiles.

# 2)Dining Table

But mother, it wasn't my fault. But mother, that's how I was made. But mother, that's how you were made, but Mother I burned up cold so quickly. But mother I feel so cold inside. My tights are frozen but my legs are warm. But mother, why are you silent? But mother why won't you choke him? Mother, am I embarrassing you? Mother, am I just a stain to hide? Mother, was this my fault? I can't tell if I'm inside or out. He is looking. Mother he is looking at your overly round, but perfect breast that I use to suck on till it turned red.

Mother he is looking, and grandmother just fainted.

### 3)Aquarium 2

First it comes like rain, just wetting your green bright hair.

Just something you need to wash off from your hair.

Then you realize that it's actually hard to wash -bit thicker than water.

Hair stuck together, burnt plastic bag wrinkled up.

Then you realize that you're already in water, that you're just fish in the water.

You're just something to look at.

Something to laugh at.

And that little rain, wetting your hair was actually air.

#### 4) Madonna's Pearl

I'll have you be

headed

I'll always think of you. When I dunk myself in to my bed, I will dunk so deep I won't know the way out. Then I will see you, after scrubbing your sin off, only bones of you will be walking around the paved red road.

Then I will swim out of my bed, out of my cries, out of the rumors, as hard as I can to have you be

headed.

When your skull neck is staring at the sinking Ships grasped by tentacle, I'll be still half dunked in to my bed holding your head. But at least that woman is walking away. Far- Far away from you. and your arm just waving in vain, holding no one, being held by no one.

You are be headed. I can draw more, and have another you be headed. So that there will be no more yous and no more mes.

### 5) Symbiosis

In my right eye, tadpoles with rotten long tails.

Just reactions to things I've seen. Now I am the aquarium. I am the host of these. Be disgusted by me, so much so that your lunch will crawl back to your throat. Be disgusted by me, and be disgusted by him who made me like this. I will be inseparable with him. If it means less me.

### 6)Dawn

I sent out the signal, and by the dawn it came to hold me.

It came and I said I'm too much to handle

it said, look at my eyes plugged in to the all the feathers. I can see all.

I said I have more to say.

It said, it's already dawn, and here is a chair with armrests.

I said, it's still cold, no matter what.

It came on my lap and held me.

I was focused on the color between the red and blue.

That turning point of blue from red.

# 7) I Watch Only a Dream

It's thin line that I'm walking, walking on tightrope in the sea.

What I watch is only a dream.

I still tiptoe with my backbone straight, even with the octopus pumping out smoky ink in my face, I can smile- look my feet are healing. Look- I can walk with my eyes closed, just fine.

I still walked the tide rope with

the white flare dress flopping.

Now you're just a balance, the weight that keeps me on this tied rope.

My battered umbrella isn't great, but good enough.