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Editor's Note

Three Poems

by John McKernan

One Drop

Of midnight
Dew

Hangs in the smoke
In the spider web
In the pine tree

That's me all right
In this tiny mirror
Taking a bath outside
In December

I have been
This small before This cold
Swimming in darkness
The morning years ago I woke
To learn my father had vanished forever

The Stone Mason Has

chisel
A rusted iron mallet
A chipped chrome

HATE
Tattoos on 8 fingers
Chapped hands
Blue ink LOVE &

He shares with ice
A shed

endless quart
Of white lightning
Four cats and an

scribbles it
He will forget
My name
As soon as he

In granite

He makes the most

Guidelines

Contact

stylish J

Instructions on a Cheetos Wrapper

We want you to write us and tell us how you feel

You will enjoy this Unless you stole it Take it back

It will change the color of your mood From growl to
bright orange

Particles will stain your white shirt

We are and are not responsible but we are sorry

When you walk do not drive eating this product

The girl at the counter looked at you twice

When you were there did you get what you wanted?

Think of your great grandmother planting a row
of corn in the garden in the springtime

She was wearing a part of your name

The sunlight did the rest but the rain helped and
here you are

Why was that Nietzsche guy always yakking about God?

He did not have enough cheddar cheese in his diet

Please don't litter Especially on street corners patrolled
by politicians with 9 mm guns in their back packs

John McKernan - who grew up in Omaha Nebraska - is now retired a retired comma herder / Phonics Coach after teaching many years at Marshall University. He lives - mostly - in West Virginia where he edits ABZ Press. His most recent book is a selected poems *Resurrection of the Dust*. He has published poems in *The Atlantic Monthly*, *The Paris Review*, *The New Yorker*, *Virginia Quarterly Review*, *The Journal*, *Antioch Review*, *Guernica*, *Field* and many other magazines .

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