



# IT'S DANGEROUS TO READ NEWSPAPERS

## It is dangerous to read newspapers

While I was building neat  
castles in the sandbox,  
the hasty pits were  
filling with bulldozed corpses

and as I walked to the school  
washed and combed, my feet  
stepping on the cracks in the cement  
detonated red bombs.

Now I am grownup  
and literate, and I sit in my chair  
as quietly as a fuse

and the jungles are flaming, the under-  
brush is charged with soldiers,  
the names on the difficult  
maps go up in smoke.

I am the cause, I am a stockpile of  
chemical  
toys, my body  
is a deadly gadget,  
I reach out in love, my hands are guns,  
my good intentions are completely le-  
thal.

Even my  
passive eyes transmute  
everything I look at to the pocked  
black and white of a war photo,  
how  
can I stop myself.

It is dangerous to read newspapers.

Each time I hit a key  
on my electric typewriter,  
speaking of peaceful trees

another village explodes.

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BY

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