1 .

The superposition pains my brain . it can't seem to collapse . I can't seem to take measurement . it's litter . the path needs sweeping . I can't seem to misunderstand . scan it with your eyes . observe the mauve . scowl at the taupe . lend an ear . don't touch it . scowl at the taupe . observe the mauve . it flows through the equation pipeline . twists and turns away from me . yes . it's pop . it's slapdash . no rigor to thought . garbage . now collapsed . good enough . no . scan it with your eyes . the mauve . the taupe . nothing to be heard . don't touch it . the taupe . the mauve . it boils blood in my veins . I'm a kettle whistling . the mauve . the mauve . the signs break into a jive again . superposed . one by one collapse . social justice . 50s wallpaper . vivid . dull . men . discrimination . kiss . media representation . capitalist realism . I am in despair . in a blind folly assured by the cold touch of my cage . my mind's eye is not blind . no sir . observe the taupe . scowl at the mauve . follow the eigenvector . I've been here before . I littered on the path . dropped my things and ran . this time . I did not get as far .

2 ∞

My chest in its usual measured rising and falling ∞ slowly now ∞ slowly now ∞ and then it pulls tight ∞ slipping cords ∞ room for air ∞ heave in lungs for a chuckle ∞ gut churns and contracts ∞ aorta tied in a culprit knot ∞ watch it unknot in thirty-six moves ∞ the ambient isotope ∞ here's the sign ∞ the body ∞ (hate + love) x (the inside + the outside) ∞ forceful deformations ∞ a familial inseparability ∞ we are of the same knot my body and I ∞ but it is not mine ∞ as yours is not yours ∞ mutual galvanic corrosion ∞ this I know ∞ (body - mind) / (mind - body) ∞ the sign moves ∞ through a trajectory ∞ the sign moves through the unknot ∞ as a needle scratch on a record loop ∞ faster now ∞ faster now ∞ then still ∞ stagnation ∞ I cannot see through the white walls ∞ I hang my brushwork on ∞ signed and framed ∞ means nothing to me now ∞ couldn't bear it then ∞ that's how it goes ∞ round the lace of the knot ∞ round the corneal curve my eyelids drop ∞ time it stopped ∞

3 ∧ → ↔ ~ ∨

a suggests it is finite → a problem for combinatorics ∧ *b* knows it isn't ∧ *c* plays along ∧ *d* is just part of the cavalcade → disregard *d* ↔ *d* does not act upon *a* ∨ *b* ∨ *c* → why do we care ~ we don't care ∨ should we care? say it is finite ↔ exhaustible ~ by us ∨ any one ∧ by all ∧ say it is done ∨ is it done? say it is done ~ *b* is playing along ∧ *c* is playing along → let us play along. *a* suggests it is finite ∨ infinite ∧ *b* points to irrationality ∨ bias as cause ∧ the polylogue perpetuates ∧ *c* plays along ∧ *d* is just part of the cavalcade → we return to *a* ∧

contemplate the trial of the subject ~ a haphazard procedure ↔ we know it to be true ∨ we think it to be true ∧ signification is finite ↔ our capacities are constricted to the present ∧ ~ a running sum of capacities past ∧ glossolalia is truly semiotic → glossolalia is insignificant → glossolalia is infinite ∧ we are bored ↔ capacities present prove to be insatiating ∧ *a* says they are ∧ *c* plays along → we consider signification ∧ ~ signification ∧ we need signs for sense ∧ we are bored without sense → boredom propagates beyond signification ∧ lays in rest in our bloodstream ∧ at the ends of our nerves ∧ it is infinite ∧ the signs have reached capacity ∧ *d* is we → we are just part of the cavalcade ∧ the polylogue perpetuates ∧ at the edge we listlessly peer down at the glossolalia ∧ all is done ∨ all will be done ↔ it is never enough → never enough → enough ↔ we've done enough.

4 𝄆 𝅝 𝅗𝅥 𝅘𝅥 𝅘𝅥𝅮

𝄆 best keep your head down ♪ arms locked ♪ fingers curled ♩ head down ♪ arms locked ♪ fingers curled ♩ don't stop for no roses ♪ not worthwhile ♪ not worthwhile ♩ best keep with the rhythm ♩ rocks you back and forth 𝅝 do as you please ♪ please do ♪ if what you please is the rhythm ♪ if the rhythm pleases you ♩ do as you please ♪ if what you please is the rhythm ♪ oh how the rhythm pleases you 𝅝 𝄇 *(ad infinitum)*

5 **i eat**

i eat Beckett Breton Beauvoir **i eat** Duras Duchamp Didion **i eat** Foucault Fanon Feynman **i eat** Han Hustvedt Hamsun **i eat** Joyce Joplin Jarrett **i eat** Lacan Langer Lamartine **i eat** Nistades Neruda Nabokov **i eat** Piaf Proust Prévert **i eat** Rimbaud Reich Ravel **i eat** Trahand Trahand Trahand **i eat** Valéry Vicisitud Vian **i eat** Xenakis X X **i eat** Zola Zimmerman Zelkine

6 **Atop an Empire**

the untouchable exaltations yanking our chains
on a burgeoned petal myth-coated in a glory
in absentia
absinthia
à Cynthia
take it away one more time
take us home on the turnaround
the sweetest wine gets bitter âpre
the silliest thing
the gash in the leather seat
street light flush
I've been loving you too long
so long

<u>Intertextuals</u>

Empire of Signs, book/concept - R. Barthes
Capitalist Realism, book - M. Fisher
"time she stopped" Rockaby, play - S. Beckett
Polylogue & "Sujet en Procès," book/concept - J. Kristeva
Manifestes du Surréalisme, book/manifestos - A. Breton
"I've Been Loving You Too Long", song/recording - O. Redding
Trajectory of signs / Empire of Signs reframing, dialogue - S. Santipreecha
SFMOMA exhibit & conceptual art, dialogue - M. Schreiber
"I've been here before," dialogue - S. Vicisitud
Knot theory, dialogue - Z. Baker
Philosophy of Quantum Mechanics, CalState LA course - F. Dizadji-Bahmani

<u>Glossary</u>

. particle

∞ knot

∧ and
∨ or
→ therefore
↔ if and only if
~ negation

‖: open repeat
:‖ close repeat
𝅝 whole note
𝅗𝅥 half note
♩ quarter note
♪ eighth note
𝅘𝅥𝅯 sixteenth note