

running from something—or searching for something, which may or may not be the same thing. Huffstickler has worked hard to capture a life of quiet but noble desperation here, and I think he's succeeded. The character of Quinlen will stay with me for a long time. (S-48)(MG)

★★★★★

Albert Huffstickler, **A WEB OF LIGHT** (\$1.25 from McOne Press, PO Box 50174, Austin, TX 78763): A fine chapbook of Albert's carefully-constructed poems, which tend to be longer and richer than much of what is being published today. Whether it's a chance encounter on Thanksgiving, a life without babies, or endless nights in front of the television, he captures well the poignancy of life. (M-20t)(MG)

★★★★★

KANGAROOS AND BEANS Vol. 1 #2 (\$2 from PO Box 52304, Livonia, MI 48152-9998): A short collection of poems that seems to have no central theme. Dave Bock contributes a story of Vietnam burnout, while Gregg Nannini seems to be into images of quiet death. Nancy Rice has a cat on her head, though to what purpose is hard to fathom. I am afraid (nitpick warning) that the script typeface clashes with some of the ideas here as well. (D-20t)

★★★★★

Eliot Katz, **SPACE AND OTHER POEMS FOR LOVE, LAUGHS, AND SOCIAL TRANSFORMATION** (\$10.95 from Northern Lights, 493 College Ave., Orono, ME 04473): A fat perfect-bound book of socially-conscious poetry. The opening epic is practically a rant, mixing everything from property ownership to drug testing to modern physics together in a long scream at an uncaring universe. Many of the other poems dwell on homelessness and the insane social system in this country. Eliot's voice is, to me, more responsible than poetic or lyrical, but the honest rhythms make his message more immediate. (D-160t)(MG)

★★★★★

Kenneally, **FRONT & OTHERS** (\$1.25 *cash/stamps* from Tim Kenneally, 176 Chestnut St. #4, Albany, NY 12210): There's a couple of short stories here, including the title piece and the amusing "The Chronic Complainer in Hell", but the bulk of Kenneally's selections are poetry. He picks on frat boys, New Agers, television, poets and even God, in a distinctively sarcastic voice. I enjoyed the results. (D-22)(MG)

★★★★★

Jesse Kimball, **BROWN SLEEP** (Free if you send a poem for **DOGFISH HEAD** zine, from RFD 1 Box 350, Coopers Mills, ME 04341): A mini of Jesse's poetry backed up, for some reason, with pictures of women being used to advertise products. Jesse's poems are short bursts of insight and sensation. A dead cat, an interrupted sleep, and similar incidents and images provide the fodder. (M-8)(MG)

★★★★★

Alfred Kisubi, **STORMS: POEMS OF AZANIA** (\$10 from Carl Bettis, PO Box 32631, Kansas City, MO 64111): A perfect-bound book of poems about Africa by a poet who was a native of Uganda before coming to the States. Alfred writes mostly of people, though there is some political anger in his work—the anger bred of repression. Some poems are simple bits of life, people moving on the landscape and having fun. One especially effective one takes a South African censorship decree and versifies it to chilling effect. (D-116t)(MG)

★★★★★

Charles Krich, **RIDING AROUND TRYING TO BE SCARFACE** (\$1 from 183 Prospect St, Willimantic, CT 06226): The author uses the short poems in this chapbook as a vehicle to talk. Now that's not profound, but a quick reading can thrust you into conversation with paper and ink. The peculiar thing is that the poetry is kinda bad. If nothing else, the aggressive "Fortune Cookies" sayings were humorous. (D-24)(pj)

★★★★★

LAB NOTES (\$5/yr from PO Box 24155, Winston-Salem, NC 27114-4155): Not sure if the publishers would consider this paper compilation a poetry journal. There is poetry, but by Rhan, Eshelman, and B. Hoffner only. Generally, the work is flat. Rhan's emotionally charged "for my mother's suicide!" is a welcome exception: "Do not hold it down brother...You must let it fall see/where exactly/the brick

lands..." The authors should stick to topics that are dear to them. (HL-8)(pj)

★★★★★

Evelyn Lau, **YOU ARE NOT WHO YOU CLAIM** (\$5 (?) from Press Forcépic Ltd., 4252 Commerce Cir., Victoria, BC V8Z 4M2, CANADA): A collection of poems from the author of **RUNAWAY**. There's a taut anxiety to much of this work, a poet bursting with images and feelings about a world full of hurting people. There are poems of loneliness here, poems of prostitution and drugs, of homelessness and hopelessness. But there are also the few shining epiphanies of a kind moment grabbed, a bit of hope to hold on to for the future. The work of a survivor. (D-58t)(MG)

★★★★★

D.A. Levy, **SUBURBAN MONASTERY DEATH POEM** (from **Ground Zero** [see below], PO Box 160, Newbury, OH 44065): As implied, this chapbook is comprised of a single long poem. This travels in many directions, with frequent return visits to East Cleveland. The raw hard words from the city are what I liked best: "garbagemen never get shot during riots/perhaps they are the real holymen/with an aura of protection/their reality—the shit in yr/bedroom wastebasket." (HL-40)

★★★★★

Elio Ligi, **DISTURBANCES** (\$4.95 from BSU Bookstore, 1910 University Drive, Boise, Idaho 83725): The poems in this chapbook appear to have dripped off the pen of a snide, drunken individualist with 20/20 vision. Either a story is being told or a lesson taught, and all the while the author seems to mock you for lending an ear. The scenes can be off the street, from a singular apartment, or out of a mundane dream. It will find an honored place, or it will be kindling. (D-62)(pj)

★★★★★

LILLIPUT REVIEW #14 (\$1 from D. Wentworth, 4 Huddy Avenue, Highlands, NJ 07732): A mini containing short poems, a few in haiku format. The topics wander from nature to dreams to a mystical tattoo. And then nonsense, such as "Dean Martin Sings Otello" by Ed Conti: "When the Moor hits your eye/Like a big jealous guy/Desdemona." It's bigger than its size. (MM-20)(pj)

★★★★★

LILLIPUT REVIEW #15 (\$1 from D. Wentworth, 4 Huddy Ave., Highlands, NJ 07732): This issue of this smallish journal of smallish poetry highlights the work of David Chorlton. I didn't know his work before, and I'm glad to have made his acquaintance. He takes a parsimonious view of fractured evolution, coming up with wonderful imagery like "The music in stones/is from particles grinding/at their centers..." and "...lizards grow/to the size of buffalo." A quick and enjoyable read. (S-2)(MG)

★★★★★

T.D. Man (ed.), **WRONG SIDE OF THE RIVER** (2 IRCs or \$1 CASH from 93c Venner Road, Sydenham, London SE26, ENGLAND): Though this is subtitled "Voices of Lewisham Poets" no one is credited for any particular poem, which is a bit odd. The voices here are those of the downtrodden, sometimes without hope, more often with, or at least with the fine sense of rage that sometimes substitutes for hope. "Freedom to Choose" perhaps best captures the theme here in its clipped dialogue between the monied landlord and the hopeful applicants to rent a room. (D-32r)(MG)

★★★★★

Anthony McCann, **THE 18TH CENTURY** (\$1 from Melissa Jasper, PO Box 303, Durham, NH 03824): A mini containing 13 short and medium length poems. Many of the poems have this quality of travelling in unpredictable directions. The title piece is probably the best: a dream-like sequence where an old companion arrives with her husband, the Duke, and there are midget servants, a little flinging of pinecones, and some harsh words. No, nothing earth shattering here, but engaging at times. (M-16r)(pj)

★★★★★

John McElhenney, **THREE SLOW GRACES** (\$1.25 from McOne Press, PO Box 50174, Austin, TX 78763): A mini-chapbook of intricately interwoven poems dealing with growing up, love and life. These are ruminations that seem to be thoroughly crafted, more concerned with tracing a network of thoughts than with telling a single story. McElhenney's voice is a complex one that repays a bit of digging. (M-16t)(MG)