

HIGH
(BRID)
TEA

by Haruko Okano
& Fred Wah

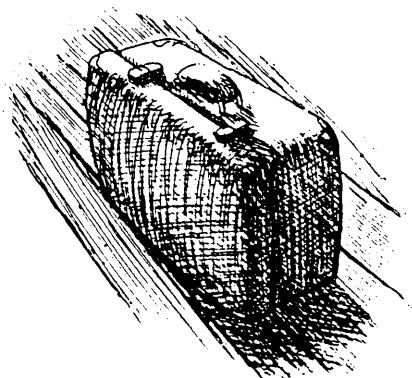


Photo: Glen Lowry, 2000

ake
die
fusion
fuss
w/ foreign-
icity

Happatizers

Opium Cocktail	10.45
Gambler's Relish	1.60
Chili Jili	2.35
Half Past Pickles	1.65
Scott McFarlane Medley	1.50
Muttered Tongue	1.70



mutter v. to speak or utter in a low, unclear tone

to utter subdued grumbles. muttering, muttered words n.

Dekki

The floor boards
whisper secrets.

But
Even as you tiptoe,
I hear...

We...to Lemon Creek

All Day Breakfast Specials

Cream of Wheat Skin.....	I.25
with Half 'n Half, add	35
Puffed Identity with Cream.....	I.45
Half a Grapefruit.....	85
other half half price	
<i>Side order of Mongrel, Mulatto or Two</i>	
<i>Fried Hafu Deitchi 25¢ Extra served</i>	
<i>with Bottera only</i>	

part-
hide's
apple
's white
to the core
agony

Y shatsu

- White collar
 manaja
- blue collar
 sarari-man
- pink collar
 bijinesu-garu
- no collar
 hasu yfu

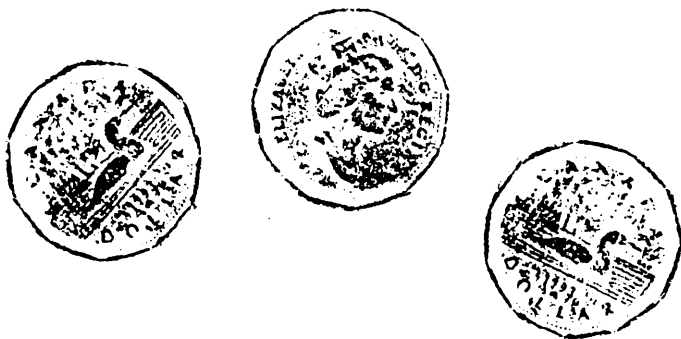


mainstream *n* the dominant trend of opinion, or style

make *v* to cause to be, or become, make difficulties, make peace

orrupt
as well
the kitch—
en sink

Piggy bank reverence for copper coins. Sudden acrid throat and the bicameral tumblers sparked shockwave blip simple breathing of the magnetic dip. The silk intelligence of memory stumbling for the lost endogene. Undreamed-of switching device substrate in the echo. Lake of idling engines. Sieve and colander for the yelping of dogs. Cow-tow the big doors bark. Bow wow!



Shiluba-Go

Silver lined clouds,

We banked our hopes,
one coin at a time.



make good v. to become successful, or prosperous, make good the loss. pay compensation

mis-teekn. an aura of mystery or mystical power.

Cellars are complicit with gravity. An entire town's castoffs fall down basement stairs and are recuperated, or not, years later. These middens of bric-a-brac turn, every so slowly, out of mind's sight, and, surely by chance, some anamnestic rhizome will surface briefly and offer itself as an agent of memory. Dust off the spider webs and who knows, the neural orgasm of images might even breed...

eg
ex-
sample
ethni-
lectic



Dunzara

Below
where we store
memories.

Damp dreams,
wrestle with
our fears.

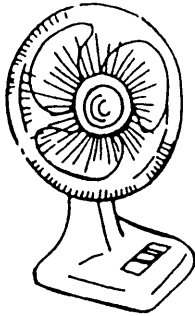
to deaden the sound of ... to deaden, to make less loud or less distinct.

muffle v. to wrap or cover for warmth or protection. to wrap or pad

omad
's the name
since Nation
's the game

Lop Side Orders

Mishmashed Browns	I.45
B 'n B (French) Toast	I.60
Bottera with butter & slyurp	I.35
Bottera & Apulu Sauce	I.65
Flop Jacks.....	I.50
Pa-fekuto Pun Cakes.....	I.70



Rumu-kura

In summer
she stays indoors,

hides from the sun,

that turns
whites to brown.

my-ō-soh-tiss n. the forget-me-not and flowers related to it

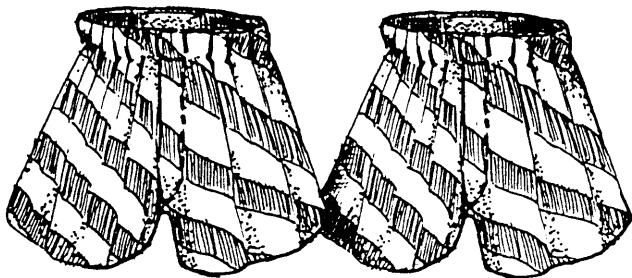
myself pronoun. corresponding to I and me, used in the same way as himself.

Sloup to Order

Slopwater Zoup.....	85
Cream of Socks.....	85
Underwear (Clear).....	95
Cold 'N Sweet.....	75
(Summer only)	

gg ex—
sample
ethni—
lectic

Then he did what he had learned to do so well in such instances, he turned it into a joke, a kind of self-putdown that he knew these white guys liked to hear...



Dolosu

Under where
no body sees.

Wear, hides
desire.

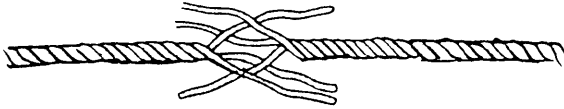
mute adj. silent, refraining from speaking, not expressed in words. *in mute admiration*

(of a letter) not pronounced, such as the e in voice is mute. to deaden or muffle the sound of ... *(of colour)* subdued

igh Muck—
a—
muck
tips
don't run
amuck

He tears into one of the Baker Street nickel millionaires who picks up a tip from a booth that hasn't been cleaned yet. We all know the tip's there; it's at least a bill because you can see it sticking out from under a plate. As the guy's looking through the menu my dad goes up to him and says jesus christ Murphy what do you think you're doing lifting the girls' tips. They work hard for that money and you got more'n you know what to do with. You think you're

such a high muckamuck. You never leave tips yourself and here you are stealing small change. I want you to get out of here and don't come into this cafe again. The guy leaves, cursing at my dad, saying he doesn't know why anyone'd wanna eat this chink food anyway. He never does come back. A pipsqueak trying to be high muckamuck.



Loppu

Between...

Boy scouts,
he learns, he is brown

Girl guides,
she learns, she is blue

safely bound...

slip knot,

apart.



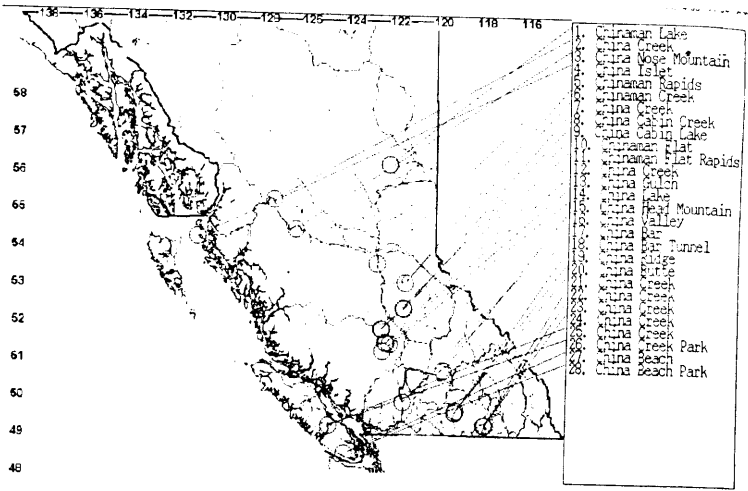


High(brid)Tea combines written and spoken word mixed in with street-level performance art and visual art. Originating during a residency at the Banff Centre for the Arts, High(brid)Tea is conceived as an examination of racialized language, drawing on Fred's research and Haruko's work with Japanese-Canadian pidgin English.

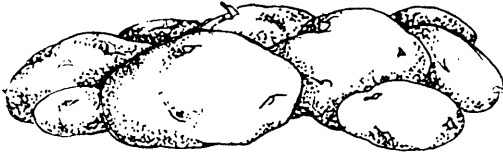
The last performance was Nov. 17, 2000 at the "Nice Cafe" in Vancouver where Guests were invited to sit down to 26 table settings of fungus plates and napkins. There were servings of fresh white bread for the guests. Words created by Fred were screen printed one to each slice using bread mold. Dressed as waitress and waiter, we served up anecdotal stories and tea alternating between the back kitchen and dining room.

Photos: Glen Lowry, 2000

rait
d'union
hyphen's
last spike



mew-lat-oh n. a person who has one White parent and one Black parent.



Nanemon

Seven potatoes
nana imo
 A place passes
issei
 between us
nisei
 changed,
sansei
 but still the same.
yonsei

multi prefix many, multicoloured.