

Allen Ginsberg

## EGO CONFESSION

I want to be known as the most brilliant man in America  
Introduced to Gyalwa Karmapa heir of the Whispered Transmis-  
sion Crazy Wisdom Practice Lineage  
as the secret young wise man who visited him and winked  
anonymously decade ago in Gangtok  
Prepared the way for Dharma in America without mentioning  
Dharma —scribbled laughter  
Who saw Blake and abandoned God  
To whom Leary the Messianic Fink sent a message darkest hour  
steel sheets “somewhere in the Federal Prison  
system”  
who went backstage to Cecil Taylor serious chat chord structure &  
Time in nightclub  
who fucked a rose-lipped rock star in a tiny bedroom slum  
watched by a statue of Vajrasattva—  
and overthrew the CIA with a silent thought—  
Old Bohemians many years hence in Viennese beergardens’ll re-  
call  
his many young lovers with astonishing faces and iron breasts  
his gnostic apparatus magical observation of spiderwebs  
extraordinary cooking, lung stew & Spaghetti à la Vongole and  
recipe for salad dressing 3 parts oil one part vin-  
egar much garlic and honey a spoonful  
his extraordinary ego, at service of Dharma and completely empty  
unafraid of its own self’s spectre  
parroting the gossip of gurus and geniuses famous for their  
reticence—  
Who sang a blues made rock stars weep and moved old black  
guitarists to laughter in Memphis—  
I want to be the spectacle of Poesy triumphant over the trickery of  
the world  
Omniscient breathing its own breath thru War tear gas spy hal-  
lucination  
Whose common sense astonished gaga Gurus and rich Artistes  
Who could call the Justice department & threaten to Blow the  
Whistle  
Who stopt the Wars, turned back petrochemical Industries’ Cap-  
tains to grieve and groan in bed  
Who chopped wood, built forest houses & established farms

distributed his monies to poor poets & nourished the imaginative  
genius of the land  
Sat silent in the roar of jazz writing poetry with an ink pen—  
wasn't afraid of God or Death after his 48th year—  
Let his brains turn to water under Laughing Gas his gold molar  
pulled by futuristic dentists  
seaman knew ocean's surface a year  
carpenter late learned bevel and mattock  
son, conversed with elder Pound & treated his father gently  
—all empty all for show, all for the sake of Poesy  
to set surpassing example of sanity as measure for late generations  
Exemplify Muse Power to the young avert suicide  
accepting his own lie & the gaps between lies with equal good  
humor  
Solitary in worlds full of insects & singing birds all solitary  
—Who had no subject but himself in many disguises  
some outside his own body including empty air-filled space in  
forests & cities—  
Even climbed mountains to create his mountain, with ice ax &  
crampons & ropes, over Glaciers—