

Smoke and Mirrors | Harrison Rice

A Pulling Quiet

Gregory Manni

Spider silk strands shimmer They shiver Maybe they're what ties us, causes our quiver What if we are delicately corded? by a pulling quiet Whisper to a paper cup and string: soft secrets, wavering Morse taps share tightly strung feelings I can't tell you how I feel, but maybe you'll feel my tug We'll be bound, wound, wrung taut, brought, swung into a sticky vulnerability When I move through flickering tree'd forests, I pull your silken vulnerables off me and brush them on my clothes But from now, I'll not touch them I'll leave your thoughts on the bridge of my nose and your emotion threaded through my left brow Your sensitivities will stick to my lips; my lashes will bat your passions I will know you with my face.