



Natasha Carthew

Barfly and Other Poems

↳ Barfly ↵

Clinging onto every word

a girl two stools tall

teetering

breaks down

mouths me a come on

from the bottom of her glass

sucks me a lemon

a sour back-lash crash

outside

sitting pretty middle of a sun shower

LA hot

she unbuttons her shirt

too far gone

licks her bitter lipstick

biting hold until it hurts

she is sodium numb

hanging onto the bar

her dear life eludes her

sets them up

slammers a row of good friends

a wink

a kiss

a mumbled promise

unsatisfactory fumble

and she's gone.

↳Wired ↵

She's got you wired

up to your eyeballs

your head dings with light-bulbs

sparking incoherencies

your mouth all of a buzz.

She's got you hot under the collar

the cold sweat threatens to short fuse

you shake with the thought

the memory of tiny explosions.

She's got you plugged in

her way of thinking

she rings and you jump

her every word cuts your blood circuit

weak at the knees.

She's got you so where she wants you

switches you on and off with a look

and you're so going to miss her

a flaying cable

she's got you wired

and severed

when she leaves you.

↪ **Just A Girl** ↪

Shape shifter

at the water's edge

moves with winter's grace

Dares herself to be placed at death's door

for a quick skate

before the spoiling boys come

hard as hammers

Young girl's eyes

easy to deceive

the depth of waves lie frozen black

in a world of white

inviting

steps up to the plate

towering six feet

this other self

swims a million miles below

one friend in a world of being

just a girl.

Author Bio

Natasha Carthew is an accomplished poet from Cornwall in the UK and has been published in hundreds of UK and International Magazines. She has garnered awards for poetry and has had three books of poetry published; the latest being *Flash Reckless* published by internationally acclaimed Lesbian/Feminist publisher Onlywomen Press. Natasha lives in the country and is currently writing her first work of fiction. Her new poetry book *Cabin Fever* will hopefully be published in 2011.

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