

## Playing With Matches

### "Slow Things Down"

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The office party was hardly where I wanted to be on  
Christmas Eve,  
but I noticed, so I cleared my throat, "Miss, pardon  
me,"  
I said to the girl I caught spiking, what I thought  
was a fifth of vodka into the holiday nog.  
A smile graced her face, she whispered no one needs  
to know,  
and pointed out where we stood: underneath the  
mistletoe.  
I remember December was the coldest of months.  
Plenty of hats and coats for us to hide amongst  
in the office closet where she confessed;  
this winter intercession secretary intern gig has left her  
all work and no fun, she never thought she'd be taking  
this much dictation.  
(wink) It was a gymnastics lesson, drunk and  
aggressive.  
The case of toner cartridges her ass was resting on  
fell.  
To her knees working her lips to hard,  
turning her hips begging the kids to play in the  
backyard.  
She tied my arms apart with a belt and a scarf  
and reached into my pocket so we could exchange our  
cards.  
I read 'Amy' she read 'Gene,' inbetween her sighs she  
asked me,  
"why don't you give me a ring?"

Slow things down...  
Slow things down...  
Let's slow things down  
Why can't we just,  
slow things down?

Well, it's two years later hit the brakes and re-evaluate  
her.  
She lost her lease in april, knew that i could pay bills  
faster.  
She moved in in June and soon the bedroom

would feel the wind-chill factor. She groans,  
'when you're at home, you're so zoned, i want to talk to  
you dear  
but that Goddamned cellular phone is superglued to  
your ear.'  
She went out on her own and found a doctor who talked  
her  
into a case of Gotta Jones Syndrome. She's depressed,  
50 mil. of Percocet. That's not all, 100mil. of adderall.  
What's next? Let me tell you about the Xanax effect,  
it's just like being alone only the bed's not cold.  
I said 'Amy,' she said, 'Gene.'  
In between her sighs she asked me, "why,  
why don't you give me a ring?"

SLOW THINGS DOWN!!

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