

Poems

Anahita Jamali Rad

in love

to consume
a bitter

silent ineptitude

a body like
a factory

but these tears

is unusually as newsworthy as

plans to make me blue

violence at the hands
of the street corner

just about to lose my mind

to be construed as
a good kid

as disposable as
not much longer will you be

of tension
counter-

unrest

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paramilitary or
ain't s'posed to cry

is that bad

like a cop
thrust upon

heavy-hand
holding
pulverised

just about to

lose.

losing you

vigilante
more

for your money
day-in day

of an entire community
will dissolve

unarmed
camels

losing you
for racially-charged

media narrative

we used to
have to hear both sides

in its naked
disregard

and petty
made poverty

be making your
enemy

always intersects
with bodies

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now there's nothing left of me

is actually
in cold blood

and the memory
coded

don't know why i
fight it

trucks carry
conclusions

i'll give you
the rest
of me

punitive
in nature

expendable
verbatim

built into
procedure

lest we
riot

can't lose you
from my.

love crops up

leaky coalition
forces

get over it

is cultural
apropos

will get you like a case of
oil shock

caught in the crossfires

under preventive strikes or
quarantine

something of an
economic revitalization

media
shower

and I feel like a

workers under
confinement

of the village
militant

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is something I
don't want to catch

my head's not empty it's
already lost

its status as
an interlocutor

and I feel like a
strategic

objective
missile

"they can't un-

turn your camera off,
did you?"

only yesterday
I said to myself

war by any other means
would smell as sweet.

Anahita Jamali Rad's current interests lie in materiality and materialism, interventions in dominant ideology, universality and pronouns, and sex, race, and class within a global neo/liberalist project. She is the author and binder of handmade chapbooks such as, *Patterns*, *Heart/Felt/Poems*, and *say what you like about my glasses, but i never getdrunk and drank confused when i'm out with the working classes*. She is an organising and founding member of the women's critical reading and discussion group, *About a Bicycle*, and co-editor for the biannual journal with the same name.