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# A Continual Interest in Sun and Sea

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Gunderson: A Continual Interest in Sun and Sea

## A CONTINUAL INTEREST IN THE SUN AND SEA (Excerpts)

by

Keith Gunderson

New Mexico Quarterly, Vol. 38 [1968], Iss. 4, Art. 30

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thoughts)

Gunderson: A Continual Interest in Sun and Sea



Concerning: the oil derrick on a barge with drill plunged into the seafloor like a greedy wasp with its stinger in a plum. What's called a "Texas Tower". A scar on the seascape which took getting used to. Nudged in a bit sometimes.

Sometimes nudged out. We'd guess about distances:....3 miles?...2½?..2? Then it's gone. Nobody sees it leave. And the next night we miss it. Like the tides, or driftwood, or weather, it was worth talking about,

decked out in its lights like a low-slung constellation.

We'd ask each other what the men did out there. Their individual tasks. How, it must feel going on into the night as the shoreline flicked one after one itself off, as behind us the singing of insects surrounded the ankles of mountains, while behind them only the moon was, and the invisible noises of Japan. New Mexico Quarterly, Vol. 38 [1968], Iss. 4, Art. 30

gulls wrestling with the wind. this is hardly an odd day. yet the way your skirt flys up suggests loudlier than usual the higher than thigh-white of you. yes. that's the mood I'm in, as you stand on the porch, thus: sunlight flung over your right shoulder. VI want you everywhichway. want you while the lizard carved out of that which he lies on, his rock, is a sort of bas relief. it is too early for lunch too late for exploring the tidepools. so let me just undress you here. continue the exploras the sun ations long ago begun swings on its way towards 12:00. over us tide the grows high-Walt Disney, had he had a more interesting er. mind could have filmed in 1 ··· 0 W m 0 t, i 3 Ο, n the act of love beginning with gulls; could have wrung each visual pleasure from its progressions with those tricky cameras of his. we have instead THE LIVING DESERT the way the flowers come on. and I've been told that in another film he made lemmings charge over a cliff, something, I've also been told, they don't do by nature. what have I learned? invented? been born with? do I undress you by nature? here, now, as the sun swings over us, as the metabolism of lizards keeps up the awkward rhythm of things.

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#### A GAME CALLED TRYING TO DISCERN THE INDIVIDUAL JOURNEY:

DISCERN TIDUAL JOURNEY: or try to keep your eye on a single wave coming in pick any wave coming in

> go on, go on, pick one:

now

try to keep your eye on your eye on your eye

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still & the very wave you'd picked?

(for those who do not live near the sea use a leaf or a flake of snow falling

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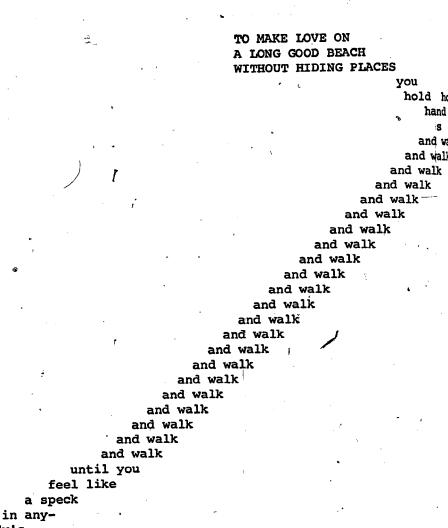
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