

7 January 2004

Alice Quinn
Poetry Editor
The New Yorker
4 Times Square
New York, NY 10036

Dear Alice,

Here are the poems I mentioned in my e-mail the other day—all those as yet unpublished from the new ms, *The Eye Like a Strange Balloon*, (titled after that 1882 Odilon Redon sketch you may know from seeing it at MoMA, “The Eye Like a Strange Balloon Mounts Toward Infinity”). I’ll send the entire ms later this week but I wanted to get these off today.

I hope there’s something among these that seems right for *The New Yorker* but if not, thanks anyway

for asking to see more work. The book is scheduled to be published by Grove in the early fall so I'd be very grateful if you could let me know as soon as you can if there's nothing here that appeals to you; that way, I'll be able to send them elsewhere in time for publication before the book appears. May this still very bright New Year bring you only good.

Sincerely,

Mary Jo Bang