

Terrible things
(are happening)
In Brooklyn -

(Just yesterday) 5th Avenue:

I heard rumors:
the low
gleam
of the bottles, the bamboo sink
spout of the litchi-tini
lounge and Thai
kitchen, the hall
of books and bowles
court, the Korean
sushi – saki
cocktail bar:
– they're
under
Threat!
(from all sides)

4th Avenue
freeway
that flows
neon,
a roar of wheels and gears
even at two a.m.
when 5th Avenue
shuts down
and the bar lights fade into the night
is encroaching...
4th Avenue
(that crosses to Bay Ridge clear across)
the restaurants
(Ethiopian, Peruvian, Egyptian)
and the bars
(always something open
something going on)

Just yesterday (you moved to 7th Avenue,
bringing 4th Avenue with you)
7th Avenue,
(upscale bars)
haven
for stroller pushers,
lesbian couples
young people with little dogs.
(avenue of churches,
chain bookstores,
schools)

Are you trying to
confuse the avenues?

You call the 7th
dull.

You bring
(the all night energy of 4th)
an artist's colony,
(the lounge scene of 5th)
you meet me at the
chocolate lounge,
haven for writers
(and cocoa drinkers)

Something terrible (and wonderful)
is happening in Brooklyn!