

1965

Chi Verra Vorra

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Chi Verra Vorra

Cover Page Footnote

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The "Inspected by 84" Ticket

I am an "Inspected by 84" O.K. shirt
Don't just throw me away with those pins and plastic
84 works hard and barely supports a home
Just stop what you're doing and say hello to him!
He looked at me on an assembly line
I remember because he inspected me quickly
He was trying to get in a quick smoke
His teeth are yellow from smoking too much
I'm not O.K. but that's all right
He really couldn't have cared less
I heard him talking to 83
Mrs. 84's new baby just died
They couldn't afford it anyway
84 isn't very happy today, and 83 doesn't listen so well
Don't just throw that "Inspected by 84" ticket away
So easily
How often does 84 say hello to you?
So easily?

JIM HYDE

Chi verra vorra

My parched lips raw;
Your cooling spring
 Phlegethon* to me.
With fever song my fauns prick your ear
 Your heart not so.
 Once loving touch cold and limp.
The chill can find no warmth
 In your gray hearth.
I search a way;
 You leave me blind.
Time, the rushing torrent,
Rivers 'tween us.

D. CALLAHAN

*Phlegethon—the river of fire in the underworld.
It is refreshing in appearance, but is burning to the taste.