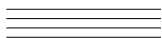


## W A S P S



L O U I S E G L Ü C K

Action is not a symbol of meaning. For example,  
if I stick a needle into your arm which hypothetically,  
could kill you, this does not mean I bear you  
any ill will – this is not assault, this is not warfare,  
we are not two tribes pitted against each other, two brothers  
fighting over the same lady. You human beings never understand  
that these exchanges of essence lack significance: the fact is,  
you are a stranger to me – not even a stranger; you are  
a piece of a stranger, an arm or a leg; I did not wake this morning  
filled with hate; I thought only what a glorious morning, how  
sweet  
the bee-balm is, and the streets, how filled they are with naked  
people –  
the season for nakedness is also  
the season for wasps: this proves our view of nature  
as essentially collaborative. Humans  
reject these principles without reflection—the creature  
who shared a little blood with you on a beautiful summer day  
has no feeling for you of any kind.  
Perhaps when you are less paranoid you will understand  
these ideas; you will be liberated  
to move through nature as we do, effortlessly,  
while you are still encumbered with mirrors.