

MISSIVE

Andrew Gilligan

Venomous barbed stinger, joyous buzzer,
Concomitant of hives, fleet-as-wind,
Singular questioner, obedient
To the whims and scents of sex, that greeny flower,
Mischief-seeker in high clover, swarmer,
Pursuer, fawner, velvet-armored one,
Narcotic wobbler, honey-dripper, drone,
Scandalizer of the field, nectar-hoarder:

Our correspondence has fallen off.
Winter was cold, mercenary, unkind.
I barely made it through—nothing to report.
You? *Hmmm?*—I'd've made a beeline for your hive
Had this coarse nose known what scent to follow.
Come buzz me by the flagstones! Sincerely yours,