Alice You Know What

John Ashbery

Follow this and additional works at: http://ir.uiowa.edu/iowareview

Part of the Creative Writing Commons

Recommended Citation
Available at: https://doi.org/10.17077/0021-065X.7526
Alice You Know What

Suppose if by somewhat else
comes into a room left
for a day creamy and erratic
as by such bonds as will
afterward be seen
and with others.

No sudden hinge allowable this time
Horses and men strain over land
untaxed from the seventeenth century
and will in other guises appear too
The more robust he wanted it to be
and she too in appearing dim

Therefore this social lesson came undone
It was all just as he had once imagined
They were there and others too
All given signs spelt out
These were chambers too, unlike

the sail at the other
Parcels too come unopened
The bazaar and all its treats
destined now to go slowly down
where an after-image exhales
why other stories are now told
in the telling and come new at him

was always changing beyond flaws,
and polar bears good-natured
now, and lovely access
granted from underneath
allowed to bring people in.
One of the principals he is traveling with
took me to interview with him.
It’s been so long...so cold,
and this what he wanted to learn.
Buckling hydrangeas the author just had a problem
and this is what he wanted to learn:
the rules’ humid access