

derek beaulieu has been writing for a few years & runs House Press (chapbooks, postcards), has been/is @ U of C, Alberta College of Art & gone thru lots of hours in little rooms with paint & words. House Press c/o 603, 323-13th Avenue SW Calgary Alberta T2R 0K3 Canada, or housepre@cadvision.com

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poem

above/
ground press
c/o rob mcLennan
rr#1 maxville
ontario k0c 1t0

IV.08/13/97 ("her fear of the silence after she spoke")
by derek beaulieu
produced in _____
may ____, 1998
above/ground press broadside #70

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IV.08/13/97

("her fear of the silence after she spoke")

scared and ashamed for

not telling me the truth?

(she sd that leaving out the details and not telling me sooner
shamed her.)

what was i to say?

what was she to say?

(bkends on a single line)

what she did before we met - days or years.

on one hand doesnt affect me - i told her

that ("are you healthy? thats all that matters."

)

but i was wrong -

i told her that her past was none of my concern unless she made it my concern

(this has nothing to do with go. "baring her soul" and telling all

but choosing to reveal and peel back herself

&

exist in a way

so that it doesnt matter who she was.

and who i was)

but i was wrong -

would we have met - would we have been ready for eachother if not for

what we have done?

my(her) mistakes & her(my) pasts are her(my) own

& yet w/o them

would

we have

our

future together?

(could i condemn what made her?)

would that not condemn and damn who she is?)

((what could i say?

"i reject yr past & what you have done. i reject yr trials and charges. i reject what
formed you."?))

i cannot reject

the mud & the soil

from which

she

i

we

are made.