

AFTER THOUGHT . . .

Jack: So what do you think of this Newfields bloke?

Juanita: A mixed cup of tea. Some of his poems aren't half-bad, but others . . . argh! (raising her hands in exasperation)

Jack: (nodding) I know how what you mean. There's something contradictory about his works. Some of these poems are simple fun with no particular agenda – but writers get into trouble by trying to become deep.

Shu: (blowing his nose) Hmm. He never really gets deep – just foolish. This happens any time writers get attached to a particular philosophy.

Ella: So you're ambivalent?

Juanita: Damn right! I prefer to think of Newfields as a graphic artist, not a writer.

Shu: (yawning indifferently) Whatever. (Looking towards Ella with a mischievous gaze) So, did this book mean anything to you?

Ella: (pausing coyly) Hmm. A few poems and artworks spoke to me, but most didn't.

Jack: Failures are also interesting: they help us realize just how far poetry and art can go.

Shu: Which is?

Jack: Pretty far!

- T Newfields

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