

# MEDITATIONS

an ahadada online chapbook by

JOHN SOLT



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i lived my life  
in slow motion  
backwards

and at birth  
died

he was such  
a son of a bitch  
they said  
only his glass eye  
was human

the afterthought  
and the second guess

he refused to learn  
the lessons he loved  
to teach

she even helped  
feed the people  
who throw away food

there was one thought  
unspoken  
on everyone's mind

he has no face  
only a façade

“we’ll be back”  
he said  
to himself

lashing tongue  
licking tongue

people are climbing  
over other people  
to be the same

the ayatollah of  
unconsciousness  
breathes syrup down the ear

no one is innocent  
but some are more guilty

under the seamlessness  
it was seamy

each day lost  
is a pearl  
on the necklace  
of a lost life

i wouldn't have bitten that animal  
if he hadn't looked at me that way

i'm not kidding  
when i say  
i'm not serious

non-violence:

there's no  
alternative  
but to kick them  
in the teeth

Jesus was  
the Mother Theresa  
of his time

before she died  
she wanted to list  
her unfinished business

but she left the list  
unfinished

ants swarmed  
on our sheets  
after a night  
of honey

at the angle  
you can't see  
but can be seen  
security taps its foot

previous hiatuses  
to be put in hiatus

## Phnom Rung, Thailand

at the ancient Hindu ruins  
only stones without images  
half-opened roof to the sky  
floor bottomless hole  
people clasp their hands  
in prayer

Prasat Hin Phimai, Thailand

the impermanence of monuments  
reinforces the permanence  
of their message

he had cybersex  
with her mouse

all his strategies  
to avoid detection  
made him suspicious

only certain people  
aren't afraid to die  
unnoticed

every fetish  
has its owner  
on a leash

War

in hatred  
the enemies are  
always embracing  
under the table

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Rejected for the anthology

*An Eye For an Eye Makes the Whole World Blind: Poets on 9/11*  
(ed. Allen Cohen and Clive Matson; Oakland, CA: Regent Press, 2002).

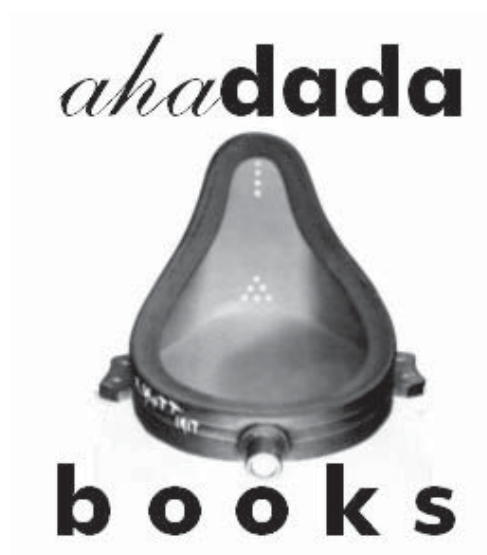


**John Solt** is visiting professor at Mahachulalongkornrajavidyalaya University's Graduate School of Buddhist Studies and Philosophy in Bangkok. He has been writing poetry for the last 70% of his life, and long ago published three books, *The Memories Are More Than I Can Remember* (Tokyo), *Underwater Balcony* (Ito, Japan) and *Anything You Don't Want You Can Have* (Bangkok). Solt also wrote *Shredding the Tapestry of Meaning: The Poetry and Poetics of Kitasono Katue, 1902-1978* (Harvard Asia Center, 1999) and has had numerous translations published. He moves around a lot, survives without mobile phone, but can be located via a seldom-visited website ([www.highmoonoon.com](http://www.highmoonoon.com)).

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