Odd Fellows After Burying

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WAITING WORD FROM BARBARA

the truth
either way
we will know
now

he said we
would all be
burned we had
to leave our house

this all in the
kitchen with black Jesus
Christ at the table

ODD FELLOWS AFTER BURYING

the friends
for years not
in the same
city or
place needn’t
stand out by
the cars to talk

it’s going to the hall
and eating his meal
talking miles fast
and laughing before
the drive home

FOR ROBERT E. LEE

i worry
that the
cats in
the afternoon
heat crawl up
in the engines
to the shade

all we try
as arts just
finding one
spot

CALICO (For Gladine)

flour in fifty pound
sack sugar in twenty
pound sacks there’s
still some this way

print muslin making
the sacks not seem
to be what they are
holding things but

these sacks make
into shirts dresses
aprons the only
trouble is that
no two sacks
are the same never
enough of one
color except for
baby