

Hey Walt Why Do Some Things Always Remind Us of Others  
Robert Neill ©1995

'You can call me Flower  
if you want to, Bambi.'

Bam bi  
Bam bi Lamp

I have a Bambi Lamp  
I found it and it's mine.  
I have a Bambi Lamp that  
I found on a Chicago El train platform  
in the trash  
and now it's mine.  
Someone's discarded. Trash. Mine.

I discovered this piece of this  
Bambi. Fire. Run Bambi, Run. Man!  
Man. . . man, on the southbound Belmont el platform  
I found  
This Loveable lost little lam . . .p  
Huddling in the trash

It couldn't have been there for long  
for nothing was on top of it  
nothing was on top of the two pieces  
The Bambi Lamp  
and the Bambi Lamp Shade  
The two pieces were both there  
The two pieces possibly still intact.

I almost did not pick them up  
'Something must be wrong I thought  
Frayed cord. Broken switch. Holy shade.'

I thought.  
But then I thought again.

But then I thought again,  
'Why not?  
I have no things Bambi at Home.  
If it works I have a new light. A new Bambi Lamp  
And if it doesn't I discard it in a dumpster  
not far from where I found it'.

So I rescued this Bambi from the bin  
of coffee cups, tossed Tribes and forgotten Times  
never to be recycled  
And headed homeward.

I walked proudly down Belmont  
passed the regular Belmont fare  
of flannel punks and Neon St. kids  
passed Chicago Tattoos and Dunkin' Doughnuts  
Bambi Lamp and Shade in hand.

Bambi Lamp and Shade in hand  
I walked up Halsted and home.

Once there, I screwed in the bulb  
I plopped on the shade  
I plugged in the plug and  
switch. . .

The light  
The light of the once forgotten  
The light of the once thought functionless  
The light of the forest once again fell from  
scenic Bambi shade on to  
Bambi with blue butterfly on tail

fell once again on  
the green grassy base  
fell again on  
the abridged Bambi Book  
opened permanently to the  
birth of Bambi page  
'What are you going to name the young prince?',  
the baby rabbit asked.  
'I'll call him Bambi.'  
the mother deer answered. 'Bambi'.  
Bambi.  
Bam bi.  
Bambi Lamp.  
I have a Bambi Lamp.  
I found it.  
It's mine!