



PROJECT MUSE®

Neck of the World

F. Daniel Rzicznek

Published by Utah State University Press

Rzicznek, F. Daniel.

Neck of the World.

Utah State University Press, 2007.

Project MUSE.muse.jhu.edu/book/9411.



➔ For additional information about this book

<https://muse.jhu.edu/book/9411>

Access provided at 30 Mar 2020 15:23 GMT with no institutional affiliation



This work is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License.

NIGHTYARD

The darkened schoolhouse has
 given me this thing to say:
the dry lips of a man part
 as a candle is lowered
through a glowing block of fat.
 In the top there is a hole
for air to feed in, whipping
 the light. This is the system.
I can feel the cold panting
 inside my navy sleeves.
Outside the butcher's, a mutt
 pisses, the steam ascending
like a ghost after its name
 has been mentioned. But what
is it asking me to tell?
 Our leaders stride sienna halls,
their lilac-scented hands
 flexing. In the grass, a tiny
chant musters itself: *I know*
 you. I know you. This is how
the first, classical speeches
 begin. Then the fat shifts, sings.