



# JOHN COLETTI

DEEP CODE

CITY LIGHTS SPOTLIGHT NO. 12

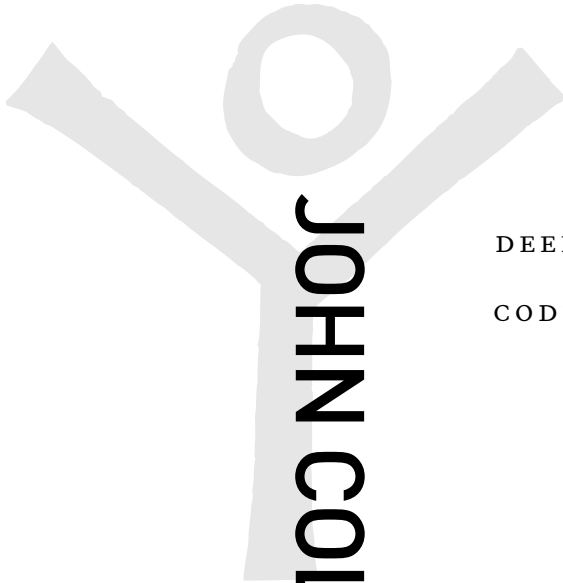
DEEP CODE



# City Lights



CITY LIGHTS SPOTLIGHT SERIES NO. 12



**JOHN COLETTI**

DEEP

CODE

CITY LIGHTS

SAN FRANCISCO

City



Lights

## CONTENTS

Explosively Rational	1
Broken Leg	2
Dukes Up	3
Meme	5
Recovery	7
(Dana @ Denny's)	9
Guilt Sweep	10
Park Slope Metal Bar	11
Evident Source	12
Painful to Watch	16
Of Blood Drifts, Squeak	17
State Name	18
Mr. High Nipples	24
Cattywampus	25
I Am Not Myself	31
Country Strong	32
Gasoline: Toys	34



Yesterday's Papers	40
St. Jerome	41
Beat Inside	42
The Recitation of the Problem	43
I'll Show You	45
Comparative Pain	48
Post-It	50
Couch Comfort Theory	51
Pink & Gray Swatch	54
And Marks Me on the Knuckle with a Blue Mark	55
Shrigley	57
Archery?	58
Montserrat	59
The Semper Augustus	61
Northern New York	62
Oh God, Wait	64
'Tit Rex	66
Complimentaries	68
Elegant Script	70
Post & Uneven	71
On the Pause	74

Tooth To Railing 76

Nate Lemont 78

I Guess 79

But, Still 80

Listening to the Gramophone 81

Poem 82

Sealing Tape Bundles 84

Ohio & After 86

Deep Code 87

Get Up. You Always Do. 92

# City Lights

## EXPLOSIVELY RATIONAL

We keep ruining our lives to be wonderful

I am not

convinced

but

neither am I

unconvinced

the primary colors go

one, two, three

red, yellow, and blue

City  
Lights



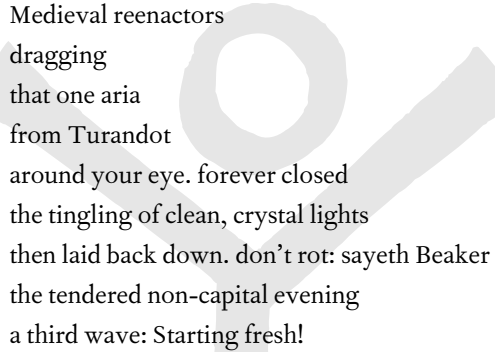
## BROKEN LEG

One for home, for job, for debt  
for squirms, for love  
flap, flap, flap, page, page, page  
scrutinized by a figurine Hermes  
all the crazy shit I did tonight  
(last night)  
sleepwalking w/ a snake, red cross  
Peugot lion  
extra freaky  
and sort of in song, ex fabris  
chestnut  
stuns eyes  
reminds me I'm meat  
gives me goose bumps  
stopping to look

City  
Lights

## DUKES UP

The Easter egg hunt  
inherently cruel  
religiously obscene  
“I see one.” “Let me get one.”  
tears. like that.  
an epiphenomenological account from like organisms  
teasing @ the homegrown  
in a banged-up locker  
that convince me, at the end of darknesses  
that I want to enjoy being family-kept-spilling  
I never understate  
& demonstrate daily  
the capital shock then “wooded  
& won by wireless”  
weeds I thought more beautiful tilted  
like a panix’ serpent  
calming  
core doubts. it’s been a little rough.  
pancakes at midnight  
pancakes at day

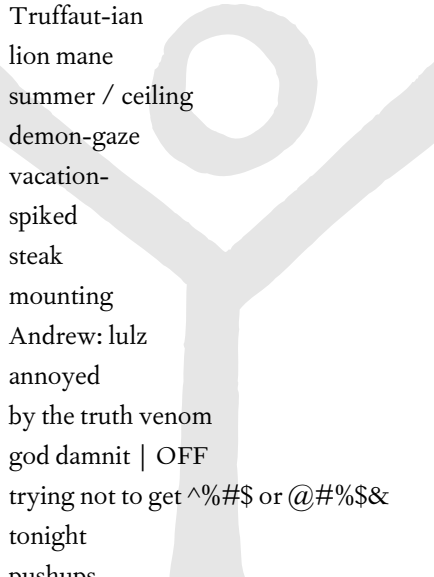


Medieval reenactors  
dragging  
that one aria  
from Turandot  
around your eye. forever closed  
the tingling of clean, crystal lights  
then laid back down. don't rot: sayeth Beaker  
the tendered non-capital evening  
a third wave: Starting fresh!

# City Lights

## MEME

Yoda biofeedback  
glass  
“when wild things happen  
we behave like ourselves”  
Danish Crown  
spit  
into  
mattress blower  
a debauched  
week  
yes  
it  
has  
been  
*so*  
high tide  
glue  
anti-glue  
endless  
fml. iaf. uul. fire



Truffaut-ian  
lion mane  
summer / ceiling  
demon-gaze  
vacation-  
spiked  
steak  
mounting  
Andrew: lulz  
annoyed  
by the truth venom  
god damnit | OFF  
trying not to get ^%#\$ or @#%\$&  
tonight  
pushups  
& angry birds  
Best Western  
Pepto salmon egg caviar  
I thought to make an import export of it  
something very shady  
and underground

Lights

## RECOVERY

b/c it can't transcribe  
our own handwriting  
sneak into the Met  
in back of the gift shop  
ascending the staircase  
Picasso lithos \$4,000  
Glorification  
of the Giustiani  
Tiepolo 1784-1785  
Goya's Manuel Osorio  
Manrique de Zuñiga  
in bright orange-  
based red  
holding a pet magpie on a string  
calling card  
in mouth  
Jan Gossaert  
Antwerp  
mannerism  
cluttered compositions



in elegant poses  
exaggerated  
draperies  
& excessive  
embellishments  
of all kinds

# City Lights

(DANA @ DENNY'S)

I don't want much, but I want ALLLLLLL the experience  
put on Charlie Rose  
eat cupcakes  
HELMET SMASH  
read the birth story  
over iPhone  
& it felt like  
it was  
the end  
& beginning of writing  
I'm going to be 23 Tuesday  
51 Wednesday  
Dale Jr.  
shredding an axe on a cascade of sparks  
"U around beauty face?"  
"What else man?"  
"I had a dream about us the other day  
duh / I was among  
the gods of Olympus  
living on the Rhine, and we both rowed crew"  
"Jesus Christ. bye honey  
my day won't get any better."



## GUILT SWEEP

Broke J's pipe  
cooking up  
Legal Defense  
for some Muppets  
smoking tinseltoe  
under  
Charles North's  
choir angels  
on

AQUARIUM

BRAWL

rainin' blood

& lovin it

all over

Aerosmith

& Zeppelin

in the milk canoe

being

a psychopath w/  
ethics / an

Epic Mountain Cat