

BOGRENK
TWO

REVUE

1983



The Man Who Had Met Elvis

well, things had been tough for the old guy,
even though he had once met Elvis,
drinking a fifth of Seagram's that same night—
"and don't you forget it"

his soul was like a soon-to-be-published
Harlequin romance, plot sketched out
in the distant past, but still displaying
only its dedication

and that first page had become a bird,
flopping a pair of small, disconsolate wings
against a smoke-shadowed windowpane,
through which still might be seen

a few old women playing at hearts, half-
listening to someone who had
had things tough, he said—
but I shook hands with Elvis once, he said

Twentieth Century Fox

jeez, what a fox, got a new car
her old man just bought her, got a'nothin'
to worry about in the world
except world war three, maybe, and herpes

Someone Asked Me

someone once asked me, will you
talk to me again?—well,
a meek sparrow among the magpies
lisps his songs of love to himself

then someone asked me, you won't
like me any less?—as if
telling the rain to stop its nonsense
were good for the dry grass

Tom Gannon