

Philip Hammial

## HOUSES

Gurdjieff's

Guthouse. Green. It's  
for rent. Eighty-five cents  
per minute. The proprietor: a monk  
in combination. On your knees. In  
your mouth — given to suck — both barrels  
of a sawn-off shotgun. Exit to

Blavatsky's

Bughouse. Blue. Seventy-two cents  
per minute. The proprietor; a monk  
in lieu. On their way  
to the operating theatre — grinning patients  
on trolleys. What's so funny? Ether's  
exit to

Huxley's

Hexhouse. Yellow. Sixty-one  
per minute. The proprietor: a monk  
loaded, cocked. A corridor  
of stately elms. In their tops, in nests — junkies,  
just-hatched, hungry. Exit to

Koestler's

Krankenhouse. Red. Fifty-eight  
per. The proprietor: a monk  
ticking. Thrown overboard, passengers  
applauding, just part of the show  
which must go on. Exit to

Freud's

Fuguehouse. Orange. Forty-  
three. The proprietor: a monk  
as string, thrummed. Orange wig  
& withered thighs. He's yours  
for nothing, his taste like a penny  
under your tongue. Exit to

Jung's

Jousthouse. Silver. Thirty-six. The proprietor: a monk by monks spent. Children scavenging corpses. They won't be shooed away. No respect. Exit to:

Reich's

Ribhouse. White. Twenty-nine. The proprietor: a monk cancelled. Paper & pen, ready to have the last say, the pen ever so gently removed from your fingers by a smiling nurse. It's time for bed. Sweet dreams.

## WHAT UNCLE FLORINE SAID

"Long live," said Uncle Florine, "the citizens of Sam " while a beggar was clothed by a populace, weighed down by clothes, crushed by clothes that Charity gave.

"Sound," said Uncle Florine, "the brownbaggers out" who have lost their notions in a chapel where Insolence came to apologize for little Miss Molly of Lacemakers Lane who knew no pride before a lamb.

"Brides," said Uncle Florine, "function best if left unsniffed," a problem this of class privilege in a parlour the colour of tongues, Mussolini out on a balcony baring his chest to a mob of grooms.

"How exquisite," said Uncle Florine, "this mouth" that as it spoke was classified as objectionable memorabilia & carried out