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Max's Sofa

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Max's Sofa

EVAN HINTON

**This poem is a tribute to Kenneth C. Knowlton and
Leon Harmon's print "Studies in Perception I" [1966]*

| | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Every photon from | Ferrous oxides dance |
| Max's sofa | they hear |
| through the lens, | a resistance ladder's |
| past the shutter, | vague flattery, |
| inspires a little | values become halftones. |
| bit of silver halide | |
| to speak the least | Even Seurat |
| about a dancer's repose. | woulda laughed, |
| | sometimes |
| Ken 'n Leon | our conceits of intent |
| take one glance, | can only fail, |
| 'hand it off, | as God's naive gaze |
| Bela 'n Mike | makes our motions bent, |
| toss it off, | we are all blind |
| the drum scanner | when impetus prevails. |
| looks her up, | |
| down, | Now as she rests, |
| side to side. | here in Ed's basement, |
| | black and white |
| This task, | on every breakfast table |
| more than one | outside of Murray Hill, |
| mind can hold, | perception prevails |
| relies on hatch marks, | as words become her, |
| each hand | pornography succumbs |
| unknowingly | to the zeitgeist's will. |
| carries a fraction | |
| of an intangible muse. | |