

PIAZZA DELLA REPUBBLICA

21.vii.2001, the tenth anniversary of my first period

By *Giovanna Coppola*

it's 10 p.m. i have to pee
there are two stars and a dark
coffered arch

a man sitting down next to me thinks i'm
indian when a napoletano today told me
i had a classic mediterranean face

*e brava brava che io sono una napole-
tana brava brava*

in this tempestuous city i can't look men
in the eye when i want to explode

voglio cantare voglio strillare

*voglio esplodere in un miliardo di pezzi
d'un sole fosforescente*

*senti senti senti una cosa io sono
giovanna la figlia del mondo la figlia della
terra la figlia del fuoco la figlia delle stelle*

*pero io non so non so che io sono
diventata*

*giovanna giovanna sto aspettando
giovanna*

but i don't want to talk to this other man
sitting down next to me with his straw
hat and dark beard he has to go away i
have to go away this fear has to go away

what do they want with their bodies
knees turned towards my body my body
i suppose i have to get up and move
always get up and move

if i sing out people will want me

if i shine people—men—will want
to stick their body parts into me to
steal some of that heat and orange and
women will hate me

solare solare

away man with your straw hat