

WILL SMILEY

WHAT SIMON SAID & DID

Simon said *Boo*: we said *Boo*—to one another.
I said: You are scaring me. You said I was scaring *you*.
We were scaring each other. It was fun.

After the café, Simon went strolling underneath the night sky:
After the café, we went strolling underneath the night sky.
The freeway hummed over our heads.
The freeway churned in our ears.

Simon grew ill at ease: we grew ill at ease.
Simon bored us with his model behavior: we bored ourselves with our
model behavior.
I said: I refuse to take orders, I am nobody's fool.
10 You said you refused to take orders, *you* were nobody's fool.

Simon worked hard at concealing his anger.
Simon needed to work harder at concealing his anger.
Simon flew into a rage: Simon began to yell, Simon began to roar.
Simon roared down the freeway toward us:
We wanted to blow ourselves up, we wanted to scatter in all directions.

Simon disliked us: we disliked ourselves.
Simon wrung us by the neck, Simon threatened to turn us into lampshades
or hieroglyphs.
I said: Simon, if things have gone wrong I am to blame.
And you said if things had gone wrong *you* were to blame.

Simon turned into a knife, Simon turned into a needle, Simon turned into
a thread.
Simon took us apart, Simon stitched us together.
Simon took his precious time.
I said: I can't even recognize you.
You said you couldn't even recognize yourself.