

LITERATURE/POETRY

\$16.50

sprawl, Metropolis 30A, level 2, with parking garage, is a commercially zoned archaeological dig and a language category killer. What used to be "life in the suburbs" has a new feeling topography: user-generated content, on-line motion sickness, and computer-generated graffiti." On and in between the lettering and language production mechanisms known as strip mall, food court, atrium, and "Chaplex," Fitterman has leached out the sedimentary deposits of various lives, ours, right before they got hallucinated away, into a big box somewhere. —Tin Lin

he mall hasn't been this scary since Dawn of the Dead. If you thought you knew the extent to which consumer culture has reconfigured the architecture of human expression, both as social medium and projection of interiority, *Sprawl* will set you straight. The appropriated chat room "voices" that fill this book do not resolve into comforting lyric structures at the level of either elegy or satire; they simply repeat their chaotically inexhaustible gestures of interpolated desire, the same way they did when they (we) were human. And yet, in all that mediated clamoring, there is also the spark of something like resistance: not exactly rebellion, or nascent class consciousness, perhaps a dual will to autonomy whose energy can't be completely siphoned off by the capitalist machine that fueled its need in the first place. All right, little cause for carolings. But Fitterman's book is something to ring about. Makes a great Xmas gift! —K. Slim Mohammed

he customer is always right and let the latest installment of Fitterman's polyphonic, sprawling Metropolis be the proof of the pudding. We've come full circle. No longer the passive, voiceless victims of draconian capitalist forces, consumer culture allows us to exercise the objectivity we've been granted via interpolation (see Barbara Kruger's I shop therefore I am) by talking back to the machine. Disaffected consumers of the world, unite!™ Why vote with our feet when we can churn out chatter in the comfort of our own homes? Anybody listening? Fitterman certainly is. Consume this book; satisfaction guaranteed. —Mónica de la Torre



Robert Fitterman

SPRAWL

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