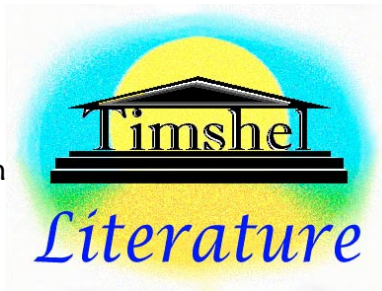


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## **Just Thinking, 11/25/02:**

### **Meetings on the Road, IV: Diverse Desires**

by Justin Katz

“Do you live on this block?” a woman asked,  
her head skewed like a white-chocolate cherry  
on cake. Her mansion, on whose lawn she basked,  
was, to the buildings beyond, contrary.

When I named my distant community,  
she tittered of its quaint reputation  
and extolled her city’s diversity,  
with its diverse — ahem — recreation.

She’d stopped me, as I’d walked by, to request  
that I reserve her a room (off Main Street),  
in which to entertain a “cross-town guest.”  
She laughed when I questioned, “Why so discreet?”

And if her guest proved not shrewdly supine?  
“Who’d believe his word — or yours — over mine?”