

# Poetry from Eric Chandler: “Hetch Hetchy”



THERE'S A DROUGHT / *image by  
Amalie Flynn*

## **Hetch Hetchy**

There are two signs on  
The towel rack.  
One says, “cozy” and explains that  
The towel rack  
Heats your towels.

It's next to the switch  
That fires up  
The electricity to the towel rack.  
That fires up  
The coal fired power plant.

The power plant  
Sends up the gas.  
Is the drought because the power plant  
Sends up the gas?  
Either way, there's a drought.

I looked down through that gas at the  
Hetch Hetchy reservoir.  
White bathtub rings surround the low  
Hetch Hetchy reservoir  
Because of the drought.

The second sign on  
The towel rack  
Says they won't launder what's on  
The towel rack.  
Only what they find on the floor.

All the water in the city comes from  
The Hetch Hetchy.  
They're conserving water from  
The Hetch Hetchy.  
They hope you won't mind.

Enjoy your hot towels.

*"Hetch Hetchy" previously appeared in Eric Chandler's book  
Hugging This Rock*

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**Poetry by Amalie Flynn +  
Images by Pamela Flynn:  
"#150," "#151," "#152,"  
"#153"**



Flow #150

**SPIDER / 150**

Thick in Louisiana swamps

Atchafalaya Basin

Hot cypress shooting out

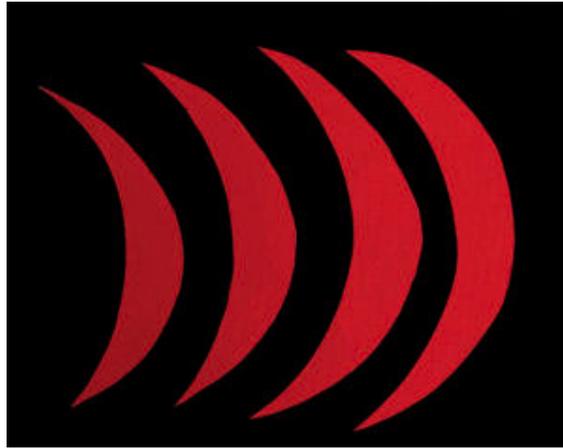
Stretching in that bayou

Where pipelines

Pumping black gold oil

Cross across the swamp

Like spider veins.



Flow #151

**TRACKS / 151**

How I find tiny cuts

The skin of my inner

Thighs outer lip my

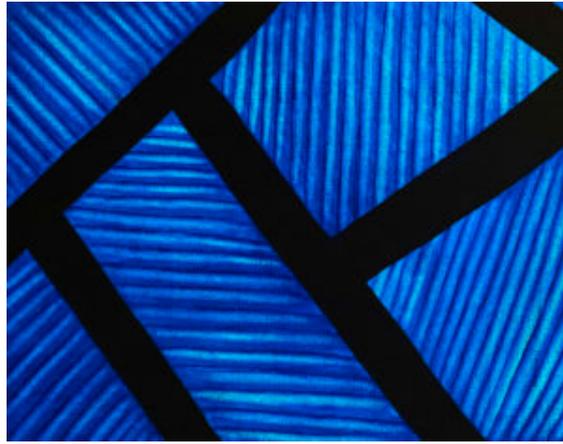
Labia

Cuts from his finger

Nails small bloody

Crescents

Like beetle tracks.



Flow #152

**SPOIL / 152**

Or deep in a swamp

How oil companies

Create canals

Push earth into piles

Push mud into banks

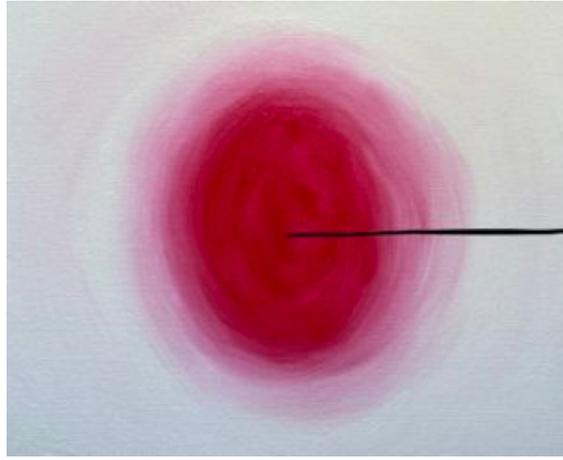
These spoil banks or

Dams

That block blocking

Water so it cannot

Flow.



Flow #153

**CLAM / 153**

The sky is full of trees

Now after

After he hits me over

The head

With a pipe metal pipe

Hard on

The crown of my skull

Bone and

Suture cracking like a

Clam shell.

*[Pattern of Consumption](#) is a year long project featuring 365 poems by Amalie Flynn and 365 images by Pamela Flynn. The poetry and images focus on the assault on women and water.*