snappin at your heels, but you can't get away. Bein apart from everybody else. Bein alone. There's a wall there. Like you're inna glass box, a bee inna jar, dreamin about flowers, smellin your own . . . death. People look at you, it's through somethin. You touch somebody, there's somethin over your hand.

LINDA. I don't get you.
SAVAGE. I'm tryin to tell you somethin, but it's not easy.
LINDA. So tell me anyway.
SAVAGE. I'm a virgin.
LINDA. What?
SAVAGE. You heard me. You're just astounded. I'm a virgin.
LINDA. Why you tellin me a lie?
SAVAGE. In the beginnin, it was just bad luck. I'm not like you, and I got a big mouth, and well, it's easy not to lose it at first. You're scared, they're scared, somebody says: Boo, and everybody runs away. At least that's the way it was for me. To start with. But then it became a thing. Most everybody I knew lost it, you know, over a certain period a time, and there I was, still in the wrapper. It woulda been easy to lose it then. But it became a thing, you know? I felt different. I felt like I was holdin out for somethin. Not some guy, not just some guy. I felt like I was holdin out for somethin, sayin no, no, I'm not takin that life just cause it was the first one I was offered. So here I am. I'm thirty-two. And I'm still sayin no, no. And I still only got offered the one life, and I still don't want that one.

LINDA. You're a virgin?
SAVAGE. Yeah.
LINDA. Wow.
SAVAGE. Say somethin.
LINDA. What's it like?
SAVAGE. It's like holdin your breath, only you never have to let go. No, that's not what it's like . . .
LINDA. I never knew anybody grown up who never, you know . . . I feel like you know somethin I don't know.
SAVAGE. Well, I know you know somethin I don't know.
LINDA. Yeah, but everybody I know knows what I know. Except you. It's like common knowledge. But what you know, it's like a secret. How does it feel?
SAVAGE. I feel strong. Like I'm wearin chains and I could snap 'em any time. I feel ready. I go to work and I feel like
could take over the company, but I just type. I go home and I see my mother in her chair and I feel like I could pick her up with one hand and chuck her out the window and roll up the rug and throw a big party. Everybody's invited. I go to the library and I wanna take the books down off the shelves and open all the books on the tables and argue with everybody about ideas. I wanna think out loud. I wanna think out loud with other people. You know what's wrong with everybody? Too smart. I know it sounds crazy. I know. But it's true. Everybody's too smart. It's like everybody knows everything and everybody argued everything and everything got hashed out and settled the day before I was born. It's not fair. They know about gravity so nobody talks about gravity. It's a dead issue. Look at me. My feet are stuck to the fuckin floor. Fantastic. But no. That's gravity. Forget it. It's been done it's been said it's been thought, so fuck it. It's not fair. I've been shut outta everything that mighta been good by a smartness around that won't let me think not one new thing. And it's been like that with love, too. You're a little girl and you see the movies and maybe you talk to your mother and you definitely talk to your friends and then you know, right? So you go ahead and you do love. And somethin a what somebody told ya inna movie or in your ear is what love is. And where the fuck are you then, that's what I wanna know? Where the fuck are you when you've done love, and you can point to love, and you can name it, and love is the same as gravity the same as everything else, and everything else is a totally dead fuckin issue?

LINDA. That's what it's like to be a virgin?
SAVAGE. That's part of it. Maybe that's the good part.
LINDA. You wanna be my friend?
SAVAGE. I don't know how.
LINDA. Me neither.
SAVAGE. Why you want me?
LINDA. Cause I gotta make a change, and you're different.
SAVAGE. What are you gonna do?
LINDA. Things have got to where I got to make a change.
MURK. Hey, keep it down.
SAVAGE. Back off.
LINDA. All I had was Monday. I just marked time till Monday. I ain't got Monday no more so I gotta make a change. Everything's doin shit on me an changin on me an lookin different than