

Here God is an investment banker. Here grace

Unequally distributed is the mirage of karma.

Taking pictures in my dream

Now she is nothing in my camera – no film

To prove she was with me.

By default an email account is deactivated while

Kuwaiti women vote from the back of the room.

Remember the Persians. Here come the Persians.

Diaspora women of Iran are writing books about themselves.

The first names of women interning in nonprofit organizations.

The last names of the first families to live in any house in the city.

Sudden panic death

Caught between bed rails and mattress.

The doping scandal in the war on drugs.

The scandal of dopes in the war on terror.

I am not “at war.” Is everyone else “at war”?

The repetition of “war time” even on NPR.

Time is

An issue of

Legitimate public concern

In a climate of great secrecy

This is a story you would not want to get wrong.

## Saw a Face in the Grain

# Nicholas Karavatos

Nicholas Karavatos is included in the anthology *\*Punk Rock Saved My Ass\** (Ukiah: Medusa's Muse, 2010) and the latest issue of *\*West Wind Review\** (Ashland: University of Southern Oregon, 2010). In December 2009, Amendment Nine (Arcata) published his first book *\*No Asylum\**. David Meltzer writes: "Nicholas Karavatos is a poet of great range and clarity. This book is an amazing collectanea of smart sharp political poetry in tandem with astute and tender love lyrics. All of it voiced with an impressive singularity." He lives near Dubai, teaching literature and writing at the American University of Sharjah in the United Arab Emirates. He has been an Assistant Professor there since 2006. From 2001 he had taught general studies at a small private college in Muscat, Sultanate of Oman. Nicholas is a graduate of Humboldt State University where he earned his B.A. in English with a minor in Art History (1986), and of New College of California where he earned an M.F.A. in Poetics (1999).

