

## **DRUMMER REVIEW**

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**Naked Lunch, Brown-Bag Style...**

**END PRODUCT: THE FIRST TABOO**  
by Dan Sabbath and Mandel Hall,  
Preface by Abby Rockefeller. URIZEN  
BOOKS, N.Y., 1977. 287 pp.  
by Jack Fritscher

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- This entire review "End Product: The First Taboo" is also available in Acrobat pdf.
  - Author's historical introduction
  - Actual review as published
  - Illustrations

### **AUTHOR'S HISTORICAL CONTEXT INTRODUCTION**



**DRAFT VERSION**



Written March 17, 1978, and published in *Drummer* 22, May 1978, this feature-article book review which I wrote had to be published under the name of my long-time pal and housemate, David Hurler, because publisher John Embry was freaking that hard too many bylines in *Drummer*. In this issue of *Drummer* 22, for instance, I wrote eleven pieces ranging from features and reviews to the drama of "Corporal in Charge of Taking Care of Captain O'Malley." Whatever. I used the publication of End Product as a hook to address the growing popularity of scatology in gay sex culture.

In 1973, when Sam Steward (Phil Andros) asked me in his library-like living room in his cottage in Berkeley, what was the "latest" among what he thought the wildly libertine gays in San Francisco, I said, "Scatology." And he said, "That's the end of everything." So what was the wisdom? Shit or go blind? Eat shit and die? What is this shit? Check out my *Drummer* 20, January 1978 introduction for my piece on "Crimes of Nature" for a profile of art and scatology in gay culture. In New York, at 6<sup>th</sup> and Houston, there was the famous flower shop, Gifts of Nature, run by scatologist Jack McNenny who provided Robert Mapplethorpe with exquisite blooms for his crystalline flower photographs, which had cachet, critic Edward Lucie-Smith has said, because while the flower photograph was hanging in the dining room, the fisting photograph was hanging in the bedroom. Lucie-Smith is correct. What most people can see of the surface of gay culture is interesting mostly because of what everyone senses is spinning











