Local Color

Guys always nicer
when you look good,

and Sandi slices her eyes open
for only thirteen hundred dollars.
And he did a great job. Lots of girls
go to Japan or Korea and pay
eight or nine hundred,
but there it's like
fast food. Snip, snip,
and you're stuck with it.

Her eyes framed in violet mascara
she looks at me constantly expectant
like Raggedy Ann,
like the pretty girl
she is not
with narrow slanted vision.

Ellen Yi