CC: Real tea and funny tea.

IUNLP: Any of those herbals will be fine.

All settled with tea and a slisky-sounding tape recorder, the interview begins in earnest.

IUNLP: Anything you'd like to say about book publishing and the writing life?

CC: Naw.

IUNLP: I've been poring over articles about you and I see where you always call yourself redneck. Why?

CC: I'm a redneck.

IUNLP: And you admit it.

CC: (Looks at interviewer and squints).

IUNLP: Rednecks are bad people. Everyone knows that.

CC: Us rednecks don't know that. We like eachother.

IUNLP: But you personally don't seem to have much against gays, people of color, and women.

CC: My son-in-law is three quarters African decent, one fourth American Indian. When I met him he hated gays and Mexicans. Lately he's softened on gays. Everybody hates somebody, I guess. I never liked school teachers but if they are reallll special, I'll warm up a little. Liberals hate working class white men, especially those who don't do dishes and who whistle at women. We can all go around and around with this about who has more hate. And you know, the faceless financiers who are fleecing us all love to see us pointing horizontally. They just don't wanna see any of us pointing UP. The faceless financiers are wonderful folk. They have no hate what-so-ever for any of us down here. They feel nothing about any of us. We are like blades of grass under their feet.

with our blame-fingers

IUNLP: But "redneck". Ack! Can't you call yourself something else? Like "rural person"?