

Oklahoma r e v i e w

Noel Sloboda

Surfaces

Scuffed the top needed
buffing badly when we
picked up the Lane table
eight bucks the last day
of a weekend estate sale
everything had to go
new homes or else
great deals. We took
a shortcut covering
under a sheet of dark
glass the surface
revealing smiling
faces first yet later
crazing
coffee rings
cat claw scratches
chips from clumsy feet
all sorts of abrasions
from domestic life
the covering became
as imperfect
as what it hid

until we couldn't
find ourselves

there any longer.
Rather than do more

we decided to let
the thing go

consigning the table
to a neighborhood sale

glad to see it
gone for half

what we paid but what
to do with the covering

marred and left behind
we never did know.