

CutBank

Volume 1
Issue 1 *CutBank 1*

Article 19

Spring 1973

Two Poems

Dennis Schmitz

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarworks.umt.edu/cutbank>



Part of the [Creative Writing Commons](#)

Let us know how access to this document benefits you.

Recommended Citation

Schmitz, Dennis (1973) "Two Poems," *CutBank*: Vol. 1 : Iss. 1 , Article 19.

Available at: <https://scholarworks.umt.edu/cutbank/vol1/iss1/19>

This Poetry is brought to you for free and open access by ScholarWorks at University of Montana. It has been accepted for inclusion in CutBank by an authorized editor of ScholarWorks at University of Montana. For more information, please contact scholarworks@mso.umt.edu.

SELF-PORTRAIT

photos, survival maps to the past.
panic spooled on the brain
uncut, the negatives scaring
you with white hair or teeth blackened

with age. your bite fans
out as your image multiplies
whenever you stoop to drink

your face from the surface.
if it would only rain
the low places fill with tricky
currents to forget where boyhood ran
or what fish rose to indigenous

chum & debris you too
ate: bogus heroines forever
dead in sunk Buicks whose seats
you creased with love-maps
the eyes are the first thing fish go for
the lens inverts the life you really saw

WINTER SUN: APOLLO 17

my first Calif
 snow kills
 the succulents & first
phase tangerine which
 would have ripened
into Easter: moon-fruit.
selenium bug-spray
 diluted, froze & quarter
moon split out of her
 skin. this is the night
 the whole family
viewed the pitted
lunar surface, the insulated
astronaut with a soundless
 blow of the hammer
striking the frozen
rocks. no sparks
 no light except by
intercepted sun.