

The Oval

Volume 5 | Issue 1

Article 13

2012

Denver

Sarah Korn

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



Part of the [Creative Writing Commons](#)

Let us know how access to this document benefits you.

Recommended Citation

Korn, Sarah (2012) "Denver," *The Oval*: Vol. 5 : Iss. 1 , Article 13.

Available at: <https://scholarworks.umt.edu/oval/vol5/iss1/13>

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

DENVER

By Sarah Korn

“The air was soft, the stars so fine, the promise of every cobbled alley so great, that I thought I was in a dream.” – Jack Kerouac, *On the Road*

you wipe at the ring of beer left on
the table with your shirtsleeve, a
bubble of foam on your upper lip
and you say that this is a city of
doldrums where beer runs cheap
but liquor runs quicker and the
cowboys wink at the city girls with
wild hair and high heels that float
like fairies under Colfax’s red lights,
youths with peanut cans and flannel
shirts bathe in the orange neon
glow from late-night diner windows
serving coffee all night, and the
homeless dream on benches in Union
Station and the sidewalks scuttle
with the restless and the drunk roar
of the western spirit under the fake
stars of Larimer Square, while lampposts
ooze amber onto the slick white
snow in dusky neighborhoods and
the stoplights flash green and yellow
and red all through the night like
a kaleidoscope that spins: they
reflect in the little orbs of stained
glass that are my eyes

and yours.