

The Oval

Volume 4
Issue 2 *Staff Issue*

Article 7

2011

The Phoenix

Sophie O'Brien

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Recommended Citation

O'Brien, Sophie (2011) "The Phoenix," *The Oval*: Vol. 4 : Iss. 2 , Article 7.

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The Phoenix

Sophie O'Brien

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I.
outside my window
Lives a bird. She's
been there for hun-
dreds of years,
or so I've heard.

her nest has been
growing. just a
little more
every day. (I give her colored
thread for decorating, hoping
she will stay) the neighborhood council
says it's a fire
hazard. (no respect for the native
inhabitants) They're going

to remove her on Monday.
Not if I get there
first. I lean out my
window

and save her with the
flick of a
match.

II.
tears stream
sighs heave
while the flames slowly rise.

a bed made

of dead love
smells oh!so sweet.

it will burn.
and she will
Live.

III.

27 I am not unlike
the bird, creating a
house for

Burning.
as the once-
bright colors

fade, I hear
her calling me
to do the same.