

CutBank

Volume 1
Issue 8 *CutBank* 8

Article 8

Spring 1977

Two Poems

Laurel Speer

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

Speer, Laurel (1977) "Two Poems," *CutBank*: Vol. 1 : Iss. 8 , Article 8.

Available at: <https://scholarworks.umt.edu/cutbank/vol1/iss8/8>

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.

WHORES DO NOT PLAY BEETHOVEN

Whore's ovaries produce
Tiny deformed grains of sand
That lodge along the walls
Like black lung,
Never a pearl.

Hors d'oeuvres offer
Tightly wrapped rolls
Of meat and cheese,
Spiced spinach on plump mushrooms
Or tiny black eggs
On crisp white crackers.
They stuff the stomach
And leave bits of grease
On the fingertips.

Whores never send out
For hors d'oeuvres.
They order a sloe gin fizz
From room service
And wait for the bell boy
While smoothing their black taffeta gowns.

SLEEPING WITH GUARNERI

Isabelle Modene
Slept with her violin.
She was never afraid
Of cracking the case
Or pulling the bow hairs
Because she slept very carefully
On top of the sheets,
Her music spread around her
Like white Spring daisies
With black centers.
Her fingers made vibrato movements
In sleep
And her eyelids tracked
Over deep scores
Running the tiny intricate notes
To their final resting place.
The first thing she touched
When she woke up
Was its dear neck,
Then the strings,
Gently fine tuning
On her back.
And when she played
It was a public love affair
With the sweet brown box
Where we all shouted more
And were unembarrassed
By excess.