

# CutBank

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Volume 1  
Issue 12 *CutBank* 12

Article 24

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Spring 1979

## Watermelon

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### Recommended Citation

Bassett, Lee (1979) "Watermelon," *CutBank*: Vol. 1 : Iss. 12 , Article 24.

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## WATERMELON

Inside the watermelon  
a man bites his fingernails red  
and wishes the night would leave.  
He is drinking and trying to remember—  
something in the night cannot be loved.

He remembers being young  
inside the watermelon, sitting near  
a girl with bad teeth. High in the trees  
he lets her talk, but when she sings  
he cannot look at her mouth.

Eyes, like hands, go wrong.  
Inside the watermelon, a bitter red sky  
looks toward something, toward animals  
and birds and friends. The man drinks  
his whole life tonight.

Upstairs in the watermelon  
his children sing a song. The little  
black and white seeds should be asleep.  
The fussy man limps and blunders, finds  
the room, and spanks their bottoms red.