

Fall 1979

## The Story of One Who Set Out to Study Fear

David Ghitelman

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

Ghitelman, David (1979) "The Story of One Who Set Out to Study Fear," *CutBank*: Vol. 1 : Iss. 13 , Article 18.  
Available at: <https://scholarworks.umt.edu/cutbank/vol1/iss13/18>

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](mailto:scholarworks@mso.umt.edu).

THE STORY OF ONE WHO SET OUT  
TO STUDY FEAR

*after a tale by the Brothers Grimm*

All I wanted to know  
was where my mother had gone.  
I tried to imagine the dead  
were among us, walking  
with great caution, vases  
which the smallest noise  
might shatter.  
My father loved my brother,  
the practical man,  
so I left home  
and married well.

I return  
to watch my father's face.  
Or simply I look out the window.  
Fires burn through the village.  
A woman approaches  
dressed in blue flame. I rise  
and run to join her  
down streets where each charred ruin  
knows my name. "Son,"  
they call to me, "my son."