

Fall 1979

Trying One Outside

Paul Zarzyski

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

Zarzyski, Paul (1979) "Trying One Outside," *CutBank*: Vol. 1 : Iss. 13 , Article 30.

Available at: <https://scholarworks.umt.edu/cutbank/vol1/iss13/30>

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.

TRYING ONE OUTSIDE

With one quick nod
he locks his chin
and teeth, snarls
“let’s git,”
sets his hooks
hard in her neck
and holds, toes out,
as the bronc bails from chute six,
a marlin trying to spit the barbs
in midair, twisting, throwing half a ton
six different directions at once, six
thousand pounds of fast jerk and snatch
on hundred pound test arm
tapered at the wrist – this frail line
frapping horse to man. His rowels
sing on every jump, wire
line stripping from deep-sea
reels, and hooves slap air,
divots flinging like tips of waves
shattered against the breakwater.
Just try to straddle the dorsal
fin of an angry fish
and stay with it out to sea
for eight long years, till the bell
bouys or foghorns call you
back to solid ground.