

CutBank

Volume 1
Issue 45 *CutBank* 45

Article 7

Winter 1995

Alzheimer's

Adrian C. Louis

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

Louis, Adrian C. (1995) "Alzheimer's," *CutBank*: Vol. 1 : Iss. 45 , Article 7.

Available at: <https://scholarworks.umt.edu/cutbank/vol1/iss45/7>

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.

ADRIAN C. LOUIS

ALZHEIMER'S

I'm in the waiting room
and you're in the magnetic resonance imager.
It doesn't take an MRI to discern
the red *pentimento* beneath
the landscape of Rapid City.

I go out to smoke a cigarette.
The lushness of ripe corn, cinnamoned apple
pie and cowcrap blended onto the palette
of black night and then brushed
over the red-necked symmetry
of these squat buildings cannot hide
the fact that this is Indian ground.

A night sky full of Indians died
so that this arrogant little city could live.
This small pimple on the white butt
of America is haunted, truly haunted
by the red ghosts of sunset, darling,
but waxing political is pointless.
You're having your brain scanned
so we can know for sure
if you're spinning a cocoon
for your new empty mind.