

CutBank

Volume 1
Issue 60 *CutBank* 60

Article 6

Fall 2003

The Best Part

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Recommended Citation

Lemon, Alex (2003) "The Best Part," *CutBank*: Vol. 1 : Iss. 60 , Article 6.

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THE BEST PART

of brain surgery isn't the shining
staples that keep it all in,

the attraction fingers and tongues
have to the scar. It's not the wheelchair rides

through maple leaves, sunlight warming
a bruised skull as I fumble peeling

an orange. Nor is it the gentle tug
of a nurse reminding muscles — bend,

stretch and flex. The sweetest ingredient
is the cutting. Hollow space that longs

to be filled with love for what little
I may have. The first bite, cold

fruit. Bed-ridden, I weigh my glass-
eye in a wrinkle-mapped hand.