

Spring 2003

Accident

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Recommended Citation

Wilkinson, Joshua Marie (2003) "Accident," *CutBank*: Vol. 1: Iss. 59, Article 26.
Available at: <http://scholarworks.umt.edu/cutbank/vol1/iss59/26>

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ACCIDENT

after Susan Rothenberg

An umbrella, the boy
takes it from the hook
on the lavender wall. Tonight
he thinks rain will fill the basement
& that he will shimmy up the treehouse like a rat
onto its little roof *& let the water do to me
what a man can do
to another man in the street*, grackles
of laughter, a wet ghost will sing
its widower's body shakily out
of his oiled shoes.