

HURRICANE REVIEW 2006



Pensacola Junior College, Pensacola, FL

The Hurricane Review is an annual publication of the Department of English and Communications, Pensacola Junior College, Pensacola, Florida. Submissions are welcome and must be accompanied by a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

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The Hurricane Review



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A POEM

A poem

Is like a fracture

In a mirror

Revealing

A shattered vision

Of reality

We haven't seen before

But

Perhaps

One

We've been reaching for.

ALL WE KNEW WAS TO KISS

All we knew was to kiss
in my baby blue '68 Ford,
on the hot black vinyl seats
that stuck to our skin,
on the dusty township roads
skirting the pungent hay fields
and the deep, cool woods
round Utica, Ohio.
At fifteen and seventeen
we tasted bliss,
our tongues stemming ungainly words,
our bodies hungry, our minds shy,
our hands ignorant of purpose;
our soft, plump desire stumbled,
falling headlong into bewilderment.
All we knew was to kiss.
After thirty years, I struggle for her name,
but my mouth remembers hers,
my mouth still listens
for that summer when nothing
but delicious, electric silence
clung to our lips.

WINDY WALK

Tall torsoed pines
bend against the blow,
their tufted tops
shimmer like lime jello.
Orange sea grape leaves,
tugging in tenacious grasp,
fall and scuttle on the path.
Tee shirts flutter
on swift walkers,
long loose palm fronds
sizzle like a steak fry
sputtering through the leaves.
That bold face
in the sky's terrain
has stared away the clouds
but the clatter of umbrella trees
speaks of pattered rain.
Scraps of paper
skip across the lawn—
white caps on the dawning sea.
Air moves across my ear drums
in rumbled echoes loud.

Deep inside
unseen pressures gust,
forcing me
to lean into the wind.

SCENARIO FOR THE CELEBRATION OF CHRIST S
NATIVITY

Partridges perhaps. Certainly not leaping lords.
The milkmaids might be worked in nicely. One thinks
of sheep, but it was farming country, holy or not;
there must have been cows. Also, for that matter, geese,
to be served up hallowed and gracious. Once the production
has gone beyond the Holy Family, the three kings, the ox
and the donkey, the field is open (Some people do not stop
at bombs) . So we have crèches with palm trees, sprinkled
with imitation snow, to mark the change of calendars;
we have mistletoe, a parasite of pear trees, and loaves
shaped like saints, to keep the rest of Christmas. Also
ceremonies of fire (Once burning logs and bushes,
now brandy at tables, candles in the particular service
of the church) . Reindeer? Hardly. More likely the turtle dove
whose voice was heard in Gilead. The story after all
is about a birth around the festival of the sun.
Hymns, scorned by priests and revolutionaries,
are caroled for welcome or lullaby.
Shepherds and masques on stage defeat the dark.
The wilder heads of the parish, choosing their fool king,
come up with pipers piping, drummers drumming
and gold rings. There are stalls in the greatest thoroughfares.
And this might be useful: In Provence on the eve of Epiphany,
Children went forth to meet the giving kings.



Katherine Murphy is a Pensacola resident and a 2006 graduate of Pensacola Junior College. She currently attends the University of Florida. Her work has been published in *Camanae*, *Thirteen*, and *Flashback*, all literary magazines of Booker T. Washington High School in Pensacola, Florida.

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