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The Visit

Eileen M. Ward College of DuPage

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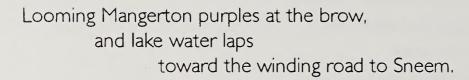
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The Visit Eileen M. Ward

Early evening hovers languidly over the Lower Lake

brushing light-kisses against the arcing ripples.



She has come again to his silent bed
to feel her life's peace and beauty
pooled now and forever
beneath the loamy rain-rich soil.

Heedless to the gentle clicking
of the breeze-blown beads
against the crucifix,,
She slips into the rhythmic prayer reverie,
mechanical, yet comforting
perhaps because of all the decades shared
on stone-cold floors before hissing peat fires.

Nature's life-measure has run out,

And she must return to her child-loud home
steeled against the sorrow-twinge awakened always
by the empty corner.

She coaches her glance to other sectors of the room
bidding warming consolation to be kindled
in remembered joys of mutual life-long love.

