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## Chasing Rabbits

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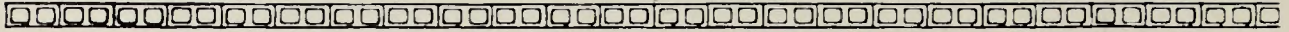
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## CHASING RABBITS

*Jennifer Bleuel*

When we were small,  
 We'd chase rabbits in the garden.  
 Running through the fields,  
 The elusive white tails  
 Were always just out of our reach,  
 Though we wouldn't have known what to do  
 Had we caught one.

Even if our hopes were fairy tales,  
 I loved those days of chasing rabbits.  
 Under the fences  
 And through the brush,  
 We always escaped to the cool of the barn  
 Just before the rain.

But then one day,  
 I caught hold of a rabbit in the ivy.  
 It was soft and warm,  
 But it squealed when I hurt it.  
 I hurt it  
 Because it wasn't supposed to be like that.

Now the days and I are cold,  
 And I sit and remember.  
 And I try to decide  
 If the greater punishment lies in  
 Knowing that the chasing of rabbits is worthless  
 Or  
 Wanting to chase them  
 Still.