

# CutBank

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Volume 1  
Issue 23 *CutBank* 23

Article 40

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Fall 1984

## In the Garden

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### Recommended Citation

Kelley, Karen (1984) "In the Garden," *CutBank*: Vol. 1 : Iss. 23 , Article 40.

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*In the Garden*

in the dewy mesh  
of string bean leaves

I find a bird so used  
to precision flight

that its tangle  
in the furious wheels

of a passing car  
must mark its only,

fatal,  
miscalculation.

The flight feathers  
beneath the snapped wing

tremble like petals  
of new squash buds,

the shiny eyes still  
black as marigold seeds.

Come back, I whisper,  
but it can not hear me,

is empty  
as a hollow wing bone.

Tied to tomato stakes,  
white rags

shudder and mimic flight,  
fall back,

earthbound imposters  
pinned like laundry on a line.

I pluck the bird  
from the leaves.

make a nest of squash vines  
and bury it like a bulb,

knowing that if I wait  
long enough

something made of the bird's  
will to taste the marigolds

will be yielded up  
from the dense earth

copper-wingéd and  
whole.