

Exile

Volume 59 | Number 1

Article 27

2013

Erosion

Adrienne Violand
Denison University

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.denison.edu/exile>



Part of the [Creative Writing Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Violand, Adrienne (2013) "Erosion," *Exile*: Vol. 59 : No. 1 , Article 27.

Available at: <https://digitalcommons.denison.edu/exile/vol59/iss1/27>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the English at Denison Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Exile by an authorized editor of Denison Digital Commons.

Erosion

By Adrienne Violand

There are streams
in my back yard.
Small and thin, hiding,
until you trip, not looking

where your feet were going,
into a stream, breaking
the hard glass surface.
Bruised body: a testament.

I sometimes wonder
what my backyard looked like
before the dam broke
and flooded the field.

Where there was soft dirt,
grass, tall pines,
there are now streams
violating the earth.

The water worked its way
into my field, forcing itself
from the source.
It rolled through,

washed the layers away,
drowned the earth
and left a permanent mark.
I think about the Grand Canyon

that once was whole
before the streams and rivers poured out,
unending until all that remained
a chasm of red hard rock;

a void, years in the making.