

Masthead Logo

The Iowa Review

Volume 35
Issue 1 *Spring*

Article 11

2005

Object/Lessons

Stan Sanvel Rubin

Follow this and additional works at: <https://ir.uiowa.edu/iowareview>

Part of the [Creative Writing Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Rubin, Stan Sanvel. "Object/Lessons." *The Iowa Review* 35.1 (2005): 12-12. Web.
Available at: <https://doi.org/10.17077/0021-065X.S957>

This Contents is brought to you for free and open access by Iowa Research Online. It has been accepted for inclusion in The Iowa Review by an authorized administrator of Iowa Research Online. For more information, please contact lib-ir@uiowa.edu.

Object/Lessons

1.

If you think you love justice,
poetry may only be
a way of despairing.

2.

The man who shoots
at another man has forgotten
what the student who sits all day
is trying to remember.

3.

The one who dies
dies, of course, for all of us.
That's the irony,
because we're not all one,
we don't even want to be.

4.

Some of us want death
the way flies want rotten meat.

5.

Others, however hard
it is to admit in a poem,
need death, its implements,
because, yes, they carry it
in their bellies like sacks of pain.

6.

There's no way to turn off the darkness
so we have to imagine light.