

2-18-2013

## Darling

Christine Zawadiwsky  
*Grand Valley State University*

Follow this and additional works at: <http://scholarworks.gvsu.edu/amaranthus>

---

### Recommended Citation

Zawadiwsky, Christine (1972) "Darling," *Amaranthus*: Vol. 1972: Iss. 1, Article 63.  
Available at: <http://scholarworks.gvsu.edu/amaranthus/vol1972/iss1/63>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by ScholarWorks@GVSU. It has been accepted for inclusion in Amaranthus by an authorized administrator of ScholarWorks@GVSU. For more information, please contact [scholarworks@gvsu.edu](mailto:scholarworks@gvsu.edu).

## DARLING

your red headache bounces down hard in my ears  
whose clean basketball are you throwing?  
the game is American, English, or unlike  
the whistling winds and dumpling plops and  
muffled large wagon wheels of your accent

whose sly smile cuts as sharply and as painted  
as enamel and bamboo shootss pressed  
under the fingernails, third degree  
reality, the varnished wooden floors like your  
yellow kitchens and white bathrooms, much unlike

the cool of the tears running down your neck.  
The hard of your face. The intense red  
and compressed smell of animals, the stitched  
leather playthings, the white looped nets,  
the narrow red rims of your eyes, the brown souls

of your feet, each individual of the toes curling, fortunately  
stopped by well-meaning conspiracies of carpet and  
couch against real flesh, blood, and intention. Mind  
under the matter of emotion, dirt under the fingernails,  
blood sea-dragoning over love. The game best cheered

when it's finally over, ox-yokes and horse-  
hitches loosened, your red pioneer headache  
traveling like the gingerbread boy who'll be eaten  
by a fox, bouncing down my pancake roads

and resounding through your tears