Desire Was Everywhere

Payton Goodrich*

*Iowa State University

Copyright ©2012 by the authors. Sketch is produced by The Berkeley Electronic Press (bepress).
http://lib.dr.iastate.edu/sketch
Desire Was Everywhere
Payton Goodrich

I remember how it used to be
late nights in the spring
our bones were just loose from that winter grasp
which seemed to drag its fingertips across April
Everyone desired everyone – or perhaps just the chance to be desired
It’s amazing how contained we are
Searching for meaning in a meaningless pursuit
I tried to find the answer that never existed anyway

Desire was everywhere
So much, it couldn’t be reduced
I can’t remember when it happened,
I started to walk the streets, desireless
Wantless; Needless
The beautiful girls I met, the boundless personalities
Looked like effort, pain maybe.
I had clinical reasons for dissatisfaction-
I avoided a world so pointlessly small

Today, walking across some park unknown to me
I felt it coming back
The curiosity, the various
The imagined life pretended at a glance
I’ve witnessed how a hollow heart heals.
I’ve witnessed, finally, how it never learns.

Hindrance
Payton Goodrich

Yesterday, the son couldn’t commit himself
he had wanted to write his beloved a poem
but couldn’t find the word to describe her hands
He would have written her a sonnet
that related her hugging arms to the rain
her calming whisper to the saturated breeze
and her eyes to still pools of water on leaves

He would have written her a light limerick
About the days they fell laughing on the couch
the time he found her sister’s ring
the Wisconsin sun and lapping water

He would have written her a haiku
of the times they made love
and the taste of her berry lips
which hang like an aroma on his tongue

Today, he has nothing to write her.
Though he wishes to
everything he has is already hers

Payton Goodrich is a sophomore in Mechanical Engineering. She intends to use her degree to study and improve renewable energies. She’s a big outdoor person and particularly likes mountain biking, hiking, and canoeing. She writes poetry as a hobby and hopes to one day be published in a book.