Nagasaki Rape

Larry Hufford*

*Iowa State University
the place. They all felt much better when it was done and then
the ladies decided to take their leave. Tomorrow, they told
her, they would return. She thanked them kindly and then
they left. They were a silent group as they walked to their cars
and began the long rides to their own homes. It was a vigil they
had kept many times and now they were each lost in some sad,
private tragedy of their own. Tomorrow they would return to
Kathleen and they would do whatever was needed and they
would do it with kindness and sincerity. No more would they
wonder about her, who she was or where she had come from,
because now she had suffered. Now she was one of them.

---

NAGASAKI RAPE

by
Larry Hufford
Botany 3

The fat man pierced
her soul in the shadow of
the tea house garden.

---