The Extinguisher

Liz Robak Carpenter*

*Iowa State University

Copyright ©1979 by the authors. Sketch is produced by The Berkeley Electronic Press (bepress). http://lib.dr.iastate.edu/sketch
THE EXTINGUISHER

by
Liz Robak Carpenter
JLMC 4

Hardly a sound, barely a quiver from the lumpy burlap bag,
But her own stifled sound, her own sudden shiver declared death on the warm burlap bag.

Strong fingers encompassing lumps of the all-but-lifeless bag.
Strong fingers sweating, tiny paws pawing—lumps in the burlap bag.

Cold dark water filling warm wet noses.
Pond water—a miniature Hell.
Strong fingers killed, limp fingers chilled.
The lumpy bag was still.