for the Advancement of Women, May 2000

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WE DEMAND THAT THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT:

- 25. Abolish the \$975 "head tax" for all immigrants as well as a \$500 processing fee for obtaining permanent residence.
- 26. Increase funding for immigrant and refugee settlement programs (in particular for language training programs and free quality child-care services) and ensure effective monitoring of provincial implementation of these programs.
- 27. Recognize and support the specific needs of Francophone immigrant womenliving outside of Québec.
- 28. Include gender-based persecution as a ground for claiming refugee status in the Immigration Act.
- 29. Reform of the Immigration Act on the basis of a critical gender, race and class analysis and a human rights framework that takes into account Canada's constitutional and international human rights obligations.
- 30. Ratify the International Convention on the Protection of all Migrant Workers and Members of their Families.
- 31. Treat domestic and caregiver workers who come to Canada as landed immi-grants, not as temporary workers.
- 32. Support the human rights of Aboriginal women in our overriding concerns for the well-being of our children, families, communities and nations, concerns that encompass housing, health, education, justice, lands and resources, governance and environment.
- 33. Make funds available to national and regional Aboriginal women's groups to ensure full participation in consultations, self-government talks and initiatives, and all other significant decisions.

CAROL J. JENNINGS

Emily

How do you feel about tourists traipsing through your house each hour of the afternoon, standing, silent, around your bed as though you linger here,

might impart one more metaphor or rhyme, a line or two on the after death, name someone you love, or tell if your view of God has changed.

Poems you left in a box, now laminated in plastic, pass from hand to hand.

Alive today, you would like the freedom of verse, but not the critics, rejection slips, writers conferences, casual sexual encounters.

Would you take a lover, swallow Prozac, watch television, give readings, enter therapy?

Or would you stay within yourself, in the house of your birth, ignore the phone, retreat to your room, hide poems under the bed, wait for life to close three times and then again.

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