

## PATIENCE WHEATLEY

### Love Shadow

While Jack registered  
at our small London hotel  
I couldn't help noticing

a couple in adjoining chairs with  
cups and teapot  
between them

her hand was over her eyes, head bent  
shoulders gently shaking  
while he

looked across the lobby  
with dark, inward eyes  
his hands hanging down beside the chair

open, defenseless:  
his face had that naked look  
as if flayed

his mouth slightly open  
breath uneven.  
Slow registration at the desk

kept me tied there  
embarrassed, not watching,  
but watching

held in the aura of their despair.  
And at last

Jack got our key.  
we rose in the elevator  
to a haunted bedroom.

*Patience Wheatley has had two books of poetry published and appears in Canadian literary magazines, most recently Descant, Prism International, and Canadian Forum (fiction). She lives with her retired husband in Kingston, Ontario.*

## BERNADETTE RAFFOUL

### You Glide In

you glide into me  
slippery slick  
like a live fish  
through a slumbering fist  
and you say that it is good

you push and kneel into me  
labouring thick inches  
half through  
like a single staple  
atop five hundred sheets  
and you say that it is good

where then  
is the promised spring  
and torret  
that I cut this opening for?

remove this yoke from my neck  
and do as the prophet Ezekiel once did  
eat and fill your stomach  
with the sheets that you marry  
and the words that you bury  
make me sink and fall  
and lay still at your feet  
while honey runs out of your mouth  
and into my legs

*Bernadette Raffoul recently completed an ma in English and Creative Writing, from the University of Windsor. She is currently pursuing publication of the poems that appeared in her Master of Arts project, entitled, Go Down Singing, while attaining a Bachelor of Education degree.*