

**ELIZABETH PICKETT**

**hairline fracture**

the ribs are a fragile cage  
for the heart's urgings

your boney skullcap  
hot brain  
firing nerves  
eyes, brow, hands

tongue, lashings of teeth-  
scarred knuckle, muscle  
control, those abs  
pecs, the six-pack  
punches

through bruised organs  
hear their music  
in her ears and heart's distal  
pulse, an ancient cadence

fists  
face  
feinting

bloodlines traced  
back to the cave  
beneath fractured ridges  
into the bone

*Elizabeth Pickett's poetry appears earlier in this volume.*

**JOANNA M. WESTON**

**Listening In**

*for Anne Szumigalski 'The Holy  
Fountain' in 'Woman reading in bath', p.54*

how did she know the girls  
walking by the river  
were virgins?

did she ask  
'have you had your first man?'

did she guess from their closed hips  
that they had never opened  
to passion and surprise?

did she know their breasts  
small in tight white bras  
were yet untouched?

did she eavesdrop  
on their verbal  
virginity?

*Joanna Weston's poetry appears earlier in this volume.*

**SHEILAGH'S BRUSH**

A NOVEL BY  
**MAURA HANRAHAN**



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*Maura Hanrahan is the author, co-author, or editor of ten books in several genres. Her writing has won awards in Canada, Britain and the U.S., including: 2007 Good Read Novel Competition: Honourable Distinction for Sheilagh's Brush (then unpublished novel); and the 2005 History and Heritage Award for Tsunami: The Newfoundland Tidal Wave Disaster. She is a member of the Sip'kop Mi'kmaq Band and lives in St. John's with her husband, the novelist, Paul Butler.*

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