The Present Situation (Is A Green Jade Bowl)

Meg Barboza
St. John Fisher College

How has open access to Fisher Digital Publications benefited you?
Follow this and additional works at: http://fisherpub.sjfc.edu/angle

Part of the Creative Writing Commons

Recommended Citation
Available at: http://fisherpub.sjfc.edu/angle/vol2002/iss4/2

This document is posted at http://fisherpub.sjfc.edu/angle/vol2002/iss4/2 and is brought to you for free and open access by Fisher Digital Publications at St. John Fisher College. For more information, please contact fisherpub@sjfc.edu.
The Present Situation (Is A Green Jade Bowl)

Cover Page Footnote
MEG BARBOZA

THE PRESENT SITUATION (IS A GREEN JADE BOWL)

Lately,
I am haunted
by the memory of a green jade bowl
sitting in the silky light
of the room of the ancients
in the Baltimore Museum of Art.

I remember almost nothing
of the shape or size, but the color
always stops me where I am;
it seems to hold me in place,
guiding me through
these gray walled days,
perhaps toward a Japanese river—
a quiet haiku—where
I dip the bowl’s paper thin lip
beneath the swift rushing water
and lift it out, heavy

with the weight
of the expectation
that I carry
three miles back
to my home
without spilling
a single drop.