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Less Than A Woman

Theresa Charlebois
St. John Fisher College

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Less Than A Woman

Cover Page Footnote

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THERESA CHARLEBOIS

“LESS THAN A WOMAN”

Do you know what it's like
To be a woman
Of twenty-one
Who's now just maturing
Gaining hips
And breasts that fill an A cup?
Do you know what it's like
To be a woman
Who tries to mount
The one she loves
With hips that won't move
And knees that won't bend
Crippled hands that won't hold
The weight of her body?
Do you know what it's like
To feel less than a woman?
To be sexually stripped
So young
By drugs that help the disease
That kills the body
Yet the body is killed
By the drugs that steal
The womanly body.
Do you know what it's like
To feel less than, every night of your life?
Because lying there just isn't enough.
Arthritis has taken my movement away-
I guess I'll just wait for the day, when
I won't feel any less than a woman.