

1-1-2010

## Ones and Twos

Tamara Amanda Bryant  
*College of DuPage*

Follow this and additional works at: <http://dc.cod.edu/plr>

---

### Recommended Citation

Bryant, Tamara Amanda (2010) "Ones and Twos," *The Prairie Light Review*: Vol. 30: No. 2, Article 7.  
Available at: <http://dc.cod.edu/plr/vol30/iss2/7>

This Selection is brought to you for free and open access by the College Publications at DigitalCommons@C.O.D.. It has been accepted for inclusion in The Prairie Light Review by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@C.O.D.. For more information, please contact [koteles@cod.edu](mailto:koteles@cod.edu).

## Ones and Twos

Tamara Amanda Bryant

Two on a balcony, facing a tree, one sees dying leaves, one sees dying moments. The discolored remnants of an unforgettable spring floating in ones and twos to the unnoticed depths of the grass below. It is a question of abstract perspective.

One on a path, listening, as wicked wind rips the moments from a hundred trees at once, and scatters them. The sound of the violence is a symphony of death and of loss. The notes of this movement are familiar, for the melody was plagiarized from the summer rain, and the notes become unlikely inspirations in ones and twos. It is the riddle of momentary contentment.

One standing in the rain, the heavenly host of droplets, liquid life fallen from grace and sacrificed by a faithless sky to a thirsty, thankless earth to feed the trees, the very same trees that now sacrifice their moments to the ravenous wind – some reluctantly, some eagerly. The last of the moments will fall away in ones and twos. It is a mystery of unwanted dreams.

One making love to late October. Fingers of chill wind caress my face, mists drench me in a glistening of cold, false sweat, while I wait impatiently beneath the trees, to snatch dead moments from mid-air so that I may cover them in paper and stroke them with autumn-colored chalk until words and lines appear in ones and twos. The outline of a poem forms on the page. It is the agony of ambiguity made bearable.