

The Prairie Light Review

Volume 29

Number 2 *Further Reflections*

Article 3

4-1-2009

Tummy

Alexa Bertram

College of DuPage

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Recommended Citation

Bertram, Alexa (2009) "Tummy," *The Prairie Light Review*: Vol. 29: No. 2, Article 3.

Available at: <http://dc.cod.edu/plr/vol29/iss2/3>

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In Remembrance...

Alexa Rae Bertram

August 4, 1990 June 14, 2008



Alexa's poetry was published in the Spring 2008 issue of *Prairie Light Review*. On June 1, 2008, Alexa graduated on the honor roll from Glenbard North High School. She was accepted to Northern Illinois University, where she planned to major in Psychology. Alexa supported organ donation and saved three lives by donating her own organs when she passed away June 14, 2008. She is remembered by her parents, Micki Niebuhr and Sean Bertram, along with many other family members and friends. As a tribute to her memory, the staff of *Prairie Light Review* would like to share Alexa's favorite poem.

Tummy by Alexa Bertram

Dangling jewelry
over-worked muscles
sun burnt skin
Overstuffed or practically starved.
Up to you what goes in
or comes out
the number of holes
or how many ribs can show through.
Precious babies grow here
double the intake.
Protruding on a small child's body
adorable just the same.
Vulnerable point
nauseating blow.
Some covered and some
overexposed.
Up-chuck reflux.
Tells you when you're sick
or allergic.
Center of importance
middle of your body,
Human bellies and the things
we do to them,
Belly.