

The Prairie Light Review

Volume 24
Number 1 *Warning! May Contain Explicit Content*

Article 72

Fall 12-1-2003

The Bracelet

Jody Kenyon
College of DuPage

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

Recommended Citation

Kenyon, Jody (2003) "The Bracelet," *The Prairie Light Review*: Vol. 24 : No. 1 , Article 72.
Available at: <http://dc.cod.edu/plr/vol24/iss1/72>

This Selection is brought to you for free and open access by the College Publications at DigitalCommons@COD. It has been accepted for inclusion in The Prairie Light Review by an authorized editor of DigitalCommons@COD. For more information, please contact koteles@cod.edu.

THE BRACELET

Jody Kenyon

We play dress up in the basement
Five-year-old girls
Suddenly glamorous movie stars
With boas and blonde wigs
Silky green dresses
High heels bigger than our feet
Necklaces hanging to our waists
Bracelets piled high around our skinny arms

I am good at pretending
Playing someone else
I've done it for so long
I the real me is just a memory
She visits sometimes
At other people's houses

Away from home
Another mother
Not my own
Pours me cherry Kool-aid
Tells funny stories until
My shoulders relax
My stomach unknots
"Nothing's wrong" I lie

Other families
Are different somehow
Dinner at 5, bedtime at 8
Every day the same
No chaos, no crying
I don't know what I've done
To make them so mad
I feel, but cannot speak
I see, but cannot tell

A charm bracelet
Misplaced in the trunk of dress-up clothes
Glitters in the afternoon light
Clinking and tinkling as I hold it
A tiny silver house, heart, moon and star
Attached by thin silver to a chain