

# The Prairie Light Review

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Volume 20  
Number 1 *Shadows*

Article 28

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Fall 12-1-1999

## Deception

Victoria Marie Vaughan  
*College of DuPage*

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### Recommended Citation

Vaughan, Victoria Marie (1999) "Deception," *The Prairie Light Review*: Vol. 20 : No. 1 , Article 28.  
Available at: <http://dc.cod.edu/plr/vol20/iss1/28>

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# Deception

– Victoria Marie Vaughan

I once thought  
 the smoothness of his skin  
 would be sufficient fuel  
 to awaken my idle spirit  
 and bring me to life  
 again  
 but after a brief interlude  
 with a stranger  
 the only remnants of heart  
 are the imprints  
 of a bed sheet  
 and maybe some mark  
 of passion  
 which mock  
 the wondrous feeling I do not  
 possess  
 of a warm love  
 which does not desert in the night  
 with the stealth of the owl  
 when the moon threatens to dissolve  
 bringing back the realities  
 of the day  
 when I can no longer  
 close my eyes  
 to the fools and sinners.

So then I turned to the unending  
 streets  
 filled with lovers and liars  
 celebrating their petty lives  
 in a frenzy  
 I drank from their cup  
 to quench my insatiable thirst  
 but found  
 that I much prefer  
 to drink of the fountain  
 and delight  
 in the simplicity  
 of childhood games  
 which I can no longer play  
 without shame  
 because I could get tangled  
 in the jump rope  
 my clumsy legs  
 awkwardly twisted  
 how I would have cackled  
 as a child  
 to see myself now  
 desperately trying to find  
 my way  
 in the thick forest  
 and the classroom  
 and the bedroom  
 not really knowing  
 that I was looking  
 in all the wrong places.