Fall 12-1-1997

Confession

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Recommended Citation
Lane, Elizabeth (1997) "Confession," The Prairie Light Review: Vol. 18 : No. 1 , Article 47.
Available at: http://dc.cod.edu/plr/vol18/iss1/47

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OUT OF MY ELEMENT

They put me away in a room that was padded
For the shrinks knew the score and the way it was added
Now they frequently test me — as if I’m getting badder
But I’m mad as a wet hen and still getting madder
I’m mad thinking of the choices that I could have taken
I could have chose English with Old Frances Bacon
Or maybe a short course in basketry weaving
Or Poetry, or Spanish or Deep Sea Retrieving.

Epilogue

Well, it’s all academic, you silly galoot.
When they run up the flag just watch me salute
I’ll be out in a year if they give me a break
And I’ll call it my thesis in a major mistake.

— Robert L. Gockman

CONFESSION

“Yes Father, I ate it,
I tasted earth’s forbidden nectar.”
(love, lush
and thick
still
clinging
to my smiling lips
as I confess
my innocence)

— Elizabeth Lane