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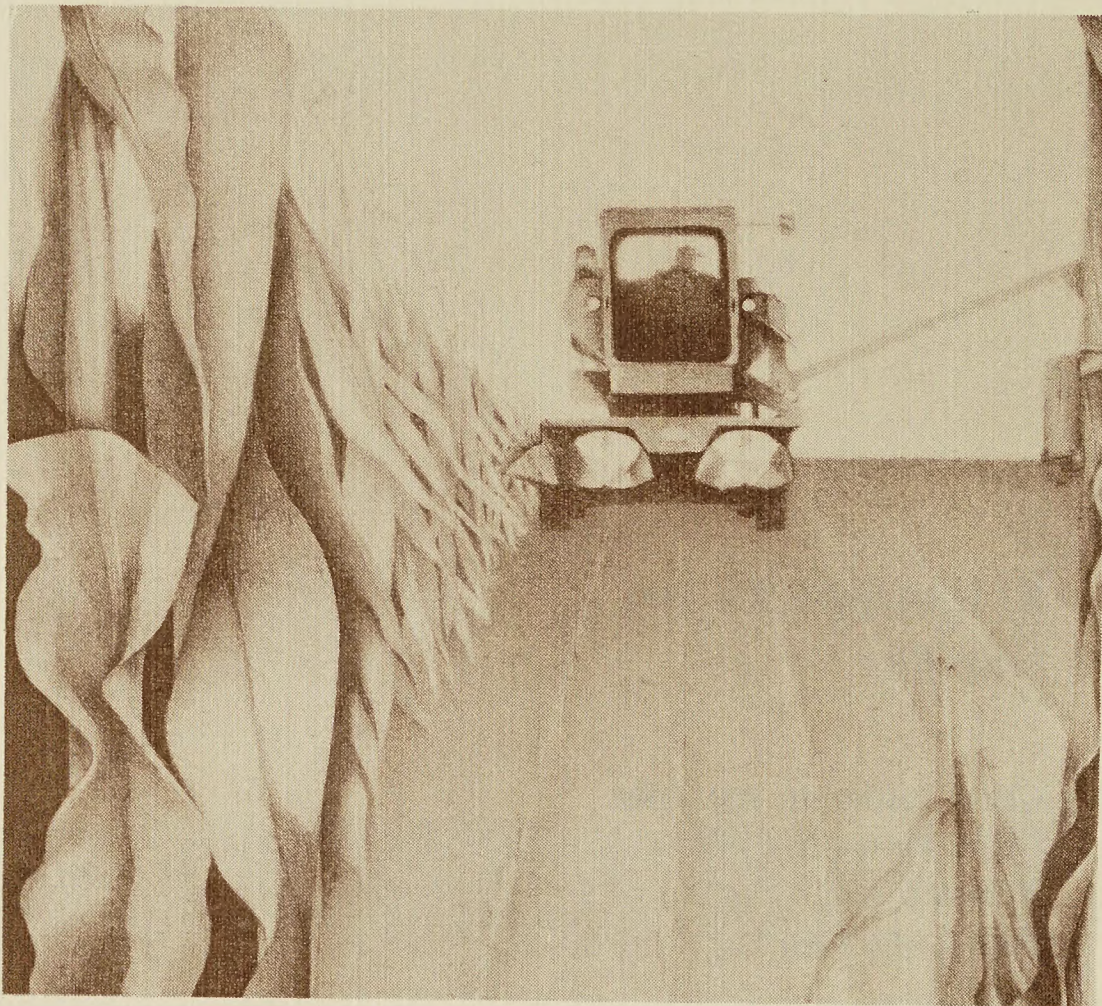
Karen Baxa
College of DuPage

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Karen Baxa October

THRASHING

Ellen Hoffman

The oat shocks stand in long neat rows across the field as far as my eyes can see. They sit there from early July till August, until the McCormick-Deering tractor and the thrashing machine turn and slowly make their way up our lane. The lugs on the tractor's huge wheels leave deep patterns along the road.