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Untitled

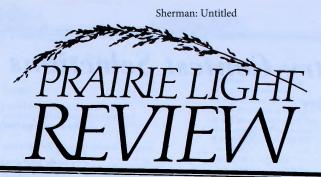
Carole Sherman College of DuPage

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Hands lie still as the mantle clock marks the passing. Beating... Pressing.

Knuckles whiten beneath brown-creased skin. Veins rise, crisscrossed: blue with life. Flowing on . . . flowing on. Fingers wide: thick with callous, resting on cool

stacks. Leathery palms reject the smoothness. Papers: inked with so many words. All waited . . .

Crevices flush red, darkening scars long forgotten. No dirt or oil marred the surface now. No trace remained save the splintered regrown nails, carefully pared.

The pen slides from between cold fingers. Space and blowing air... still it seemed so near. Hands plunging into rich plowed earth; hands cradling the dying calf. Hands beaten.

Hands cleansed, now correcting.

Where is the legacy; where is the life?

Kristina Breiseth



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