


2008

## Dear Reader

Amber Flora Thomas

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.library.uab.edu/pms>

 Part of the [Creative Writing Commons](#), and the [English Language and Literature Commons](#)

---

### Recommended Citation

Thomas, Amber Flora (2008) "Dear Reader," *PoemMemoirStory*. Vol. 08, Article 47.

Available at: <https://digitalcommons.library.uab.edu/pms/vol08/iss2008/47>

This content has been accepted for inclusion by an authorized administrator of the UAB Digital Commons, and is provided as a free open access item. All inquiries regarding this item or the UAB Digital Commons should be directed to the [UAB Libraries Office of Scholarly Communication](#).

*Amber Flora Thomas*

DEAR READER

I, too, begin with one hundred judgments on the gravel roads  
through childhood. I think I am my own absence

and go on confessing the vacancy. I fall asleep in a field  
and become the weather over the field. I go everywhere with you

in mind. At Muir Beach, I watch dogs chase sticks into the surf  
and the surf chasing the thin legs of dogs onto the beach.

I, too, think only one will obey, fed so easily from a porcelain bowl.  
I look for sea lions and steamships. This is my west and my east coast.

The blinding light of regret happens to me too. I, too, have many deaths  
to report. I pray to St. Francis to take a few back. Many demigods

gather around my grief to siphon off verses and chapters.

I, too, expect the world to be broken so that I may have a place in it.