

Cultural Daily

Independent Voices, New Perspectives

Shannon Phillips: "Rape Fantasy"

Shannon Phillips · Thursday, November 15th, 2012

Shannon Phillips has had work published in *Pearl*, *Verdad*, *Rectangle*, and *RipRap*, where "Rape Fantasy" was first published. She currently edits *carnival*, an online literary magazine.

Rape Fantasy

They called it a rape, those European artisans.
They don't know that he decorated with cobwebs and vertigo,
burlap shadows and suffering, tapestries beaded with broken ribcages,
hallways of parched throat.
They don't know the descent into a cavern of ripe blood vessels
glinting like stained glass, burnt quartz,
pomegranate teeth.
They don't know he made me
stay with a kiss, a
mouth of sour jewelry,
fruit kiss.
They don't know the truth of their bone-white Queen;
They don't know I let them
call it a rape
so that I remain my mother's good daughter,
and my husband remains unaware
that it wasn't the seeds.

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