

2000

Agnes

James David Ballard
Grand Valley State University

Follow this and additional works at: <http://scholarworks.gvsu.edu/gvr>

Recommended Citation

Ballard, James David (2000) "Agnes," *Grand Valley Review*: Vol. 21: Iss. 1, Article 13.
Available at: <http://scholarworks.gvsu.edu/gvr/vol21/iss1/13>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by ScholarWorks@GVSU. It has been accepted for inclusion in Grand Valley Review by an authorized administrator of ScholarWorks@GVSU. For more information, please contact scholarworks@gvsu.edu.

Southern Prayer

Cold clear creek water,
washes sinners' feet and souls,
free of clay and guilt.

Kosovo

War, not illusion.
Peace, a precious missing link.
Forgotten by all.

Agnes

The hair may be gray,
convictions never follow,
life's lamplight shines on.

Alt Music

Many seek the grail,
to have it come forth empty,
love of note aside.

James David Ballard is an Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice at GVSU. He is adamant in the belief that criminal justice is never black and white but it is clearly one and rarely the other. He is equally determined in his hypothesis that criminal justice is primarily the practice of essential insanity. These four short poems constitute a stream of conscious reflection on his southern heritage, current world politics, observations of friends, and his profound love of alternative forms of musical expression.