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Nanette Clatterbuck  
*Grand Valley State University*

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FALL 1978

I stand.

My roots reach underground

searching

for warm earth. To suck.

My dry crisp

Tegument of bark

screams and pounds on my rings for

Thick minerals

and soothing ointments.

I rub my

Tired trunk.

Feeling xylem rush up my strong

Blooming spine. Mens sana in corpore sano.

Naivete, quiet and sated,

I drink.

Nanette Clatterbuck