

Shot Down - Injustice

Bettina Suppe

Suppe, a fourth-year SKSM student, wrote this poem for "Ethics of Caring for the Sick," a 2003-2004 Starr King class taught by SKSM graduate Jon Stanger, M.D.

A dove was killed last night
Bearing an olive branch
The words reach her
"You do not belong here"
"We can not help you"
One shot to the heart
Not a clean kill
But a sure handed one
She was going somewhere
Now instead for a moment
Nailed to the sky
Wings flapping
Body flailing
Falling
Breathless
The arrow in her heart made a cross
Father forgive them
For they know not what they do
A drop of blood hits the snow
The moon
Still in its fullness
Illuminates
The spreading
Ruby glow