

The 2003 Editors' Prize Contest Winners

THE
SPOON
RIVER Poetry Review

*Josie Sigler
Honorable Mention*

Gardenia

From 1,000 Flowers

(you come in the door and remove your jacket)

The gardenia lay in
between mountains
so long
your open mouth
melted away
Before
to say
love
me
It was possible
Now you are
mouthless
Free
from explaining

Your hands
This winter
hovered
Suddenly
in a small storm
You were
nothing to me
but your hands
were so insistent
I lay down
in the seam of
Your jeans
to touch
your want

Like the snow
I hedged
and fell into
that white flower
and got lost
going
about the
opening
like weather
a cold front
a flower swell
come undone
together
this way.