THIS WINTER NIGHT

This winter night let the winds howl their hollow song let the rain streak sideways scratching at the black window pane

This winter night let the raven run to shelter and the mule deer limp its line of fading footprints in the mud

Go ahead let a thousand spirits whine the dying of the earth

This winter night your arms make a circle around me and in this one small room the air is thick with blossoms

© Casey Robb 1997

Honorable Mention, "Focus on Writers" Annual Writers' Contest, Friends of the Sacramento Public Library, October 25, 1997.