

2008

Basic Photo

Meg Hurtado

Follow this and additional works at: <http://scholarship.richmond.edu/messenger>



Part of the [Poetry Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Hurtado, Meg (2008) "Basic Photo," *The Messenger*: Vol. 2008: Iss. 1, Article 86.
Available at: <http://scholarship.richmond.edu/messenger/vol2008/iss1/86>

This Poetry is brought to you for free and open access by UR Scholarship Repository. It has been accepted for inclusion in The Messenger by an authorized administrator of UR Scholarship Repository. For more information, please contact scholarshiprepository@richmond.edu.

BASIC PHOTO

Meg Hurtado

it lies in the ceremony of stop-bath,
how in one strangled twang on the
serrated lyre of doom,
worlds drown, capitulate,
writhe in the photo-lab trash bin. and 'tis all one,
for that.

what do you do
when it's too early for cigarettes, and
anyway you wouldn't know
what kind of cigarette is best
for smoke-screening the finality
of love. of tender-hatred, wider once
than St. Giles Street, commoner
than the choir of stars.
there is a reason Cupid and Psyche
got mixed up
with a Beast. one flush of unplanned light,
and the promisedland
defects,

long-gone as honor, or an equinox;
paralyzed, not everlasting, dew upon damask-lips.
and only the wailing-trains
to carry you out of the green world -
what kind of cigarette, really, is best