

2013

When I was a Careless Child

Cheyenne Varner

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



Part of the [Poetry Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Varner, Cheyenne (2013) "When I was a Careless Child," *The Messenger*: Vol. 2013: Iss. 1, Article 56.

Available at: <http://scholarship.richmond.edu/messenger/vol2013/iss1/56>

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.

When I was a Careless Child // Cheyenne Varner

I picked pearls from Grandma's broken necklace
like berries from the brush just behind
the old oak tree grown a few yards from
the broken back door screen I looked through
watching Grandma walking in from pruning
roses in her backyard garden;
I laid the cold white pearls within
some watered soil where
she would never find them, thinking
the birds would pick them out
before she went outside tomorrow;
I knew that I'd avoid a beating,
but later I'd feel guilty
Grandma never found
that necklace
thief.