

Lyn Lifshin

Sleeping With Lorca

It's not true, he never chose women.
I ought to know. It was Grenada and
the sun falling behind the Alhambra was
flaming lava. I could say I was
too but some things should be left unsaid.
But I remember his fingers on the buttons
at the back of my neck, my skin burned
as he fumbled with rhinestones and pearls.
I want you breathed into my neck though
perhaps he was whispering *Green,*
green I want you green. How little he
needed to impress me with his poems.
One English term paper with them and I
was naked, taken. It wouldn't matter if
he had a pot belly or stank of garlic.
My jeans were a puddle around my
knees. I was the gored bull, hypnotized
by moves I'd only imagined but never
believed would enter me. There's
more you might coax me to say but
for enough I can still smell the
green wind, that 5 o'clock in the afternoon
that would never be another time

Lyn Lifshin's *Another Woman Who Looks Like Me* was published by Black Sparrow at David Godine in 2006. It has been selected for the 2007 Paterson Award for Literary Excellence for previous finalists of the Paterson Poetry Prize. Also out in 2006, her prize winning book about the famous, short lived beautiful race horse, *Ruffian: The Licorice Daughter: My Year With Ruffian* from Texas Review Press. Other of Lifshin's recent prizewinning books include *Before It's Light* (Black Sparrow, 1999-2000)/