

1974

Rooms

Frank Stanford

Follow this and additional works at: <https://ir.uiowa.edu/iowareview>

Part of the [Creative Writing Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Stanford, Frank. "Rooms." *The Iowa Review* 5.2 (1974): 20-20. Web.
Available at: <https://doi.org/10.17077/0021-065X.1721>

This Contents is brought to you for free and open access by Iowa Research Online. It has been accepted for inclusion in The Iowa Review by an authorized administrator of Iowa Research Online. For more information, please contact lib-ir@uiowa.edu.

ROOMS

A boy sits on the mantle with a piece of string
Tied to his tooth
A big woman rocks by the fire
With a pan of peas in her lap

On the radio they say a convict
Is loose and heading this way
The boy stares at the doorknob
Like a soft-shell turtle on a log

That coward who tipped off the law
Leans on the pool cue in the corner
He can't sleep
The hinge sings like a falling tree

Someone moves among cattle
Someone is blamed for all misfortune
The fat woman rocking near the door
Laughs at the boy with the sleeve over his eyes