

1977

Zinnias

Michael Benedikt

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

Part of the [Creative Writing Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Benedikt, Michael. "Zinnias." *The Iowa Review* 8.3 (1977): 65-65. Web.
Available at: <https://doi.org/10.17077/0021-065X.2240>

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.

Zinnias / Michael Benedikt

Dear, our little zinnia garden in the planter
Looked so adorable, remember

After all this time? Planted two hundred struggles
Ago, it survives, although

We don't; we pissed away
That past; then left

It flat. When I see it
From my window, I wish

I could only kill it with an axe.
But I can't not ever water

It at all, one day
Makes me sorry. I hate

Faithlessness, indifference,
Cold of any kind, but wait

In secret for September-end.
(Death of everything then, even memory.)

The assault won't be my fault;
My expression will be innocent

As I pour gasoline on the seeds.