
Volume 16

Issue 1 *Winter: The Writers' Workshop: A Fiftieth
Anniversary Celebration*

Article 12

1986

Victor

Robert Dana

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

 Part of the [Creative Writing Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Dana, Robert. "Victor." *The Iowa Review* 16.1 (1986): 38-38. Web.
Available at: <http://ir.uiowa.edu/iowareview/vol16/iss1/12>

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.

Victor

A farmhouse left to high
grass. Clapboard grey-
white as wind-scoured bone.
The mouth of the doorway,
the eye of one window
battered shut. So many
stories gibbering in and
out of this empty head
like shadowy small birds.

We see it at 186,000
miles a second, the speed
light travels from even
a vanished star. Victor
out back in his vegetable
garden. His raked and
stained fedora. Scrubbed
knuckles of young potatoes
bubbling up under his hoe.

His woman calls him into
the fading house for supper,
the spider by her window
riding out the wind in its
harness of silk, light in
the trees coming and going.
But Victor stays, watching
the bright air of evening
rain down, bloom, fill.