

1998

Ladder Frozen against the Shed

Jan Weissmiller

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

Part of the [Creative Writing Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Weissmiller, Jan. "Ladder Frozen against the Shed." *The Iowa Review* 28.2 (1998): 37-37. Web.
Available at: <https://doi.org/10.17077/0021-065X.4996>

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.

LADDER FROZEN AGAINST THE SHED

The word is "February",
A few dry leaves, the trees
parodying themselves
with gestures of winter
now that it's almost over—
black leafless branches
curling at the edges
of cloud, if not in response
to the dog left out, hoarse
from its stopless barking,
then to a brown, isolate leaf
clicking against itself
the wind's sound.

The word is "February",
when relationships drift
toward atonement.
Pragmatic blizzard,
obscuring the mutable—
cold wet grass—
hint of spring,
goadng the rueful
whirr from in here
of the forced air heat:
golfball on the windowsill,
white emblem of
chance equals hope,
whole globe plucked from its
—one of its—courses.