

2003

Dear Pastoral

Joshua Kryah

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

Part of the [Creative Writing Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Kryah, Joshua. "Dear Pastoral." *The Iowa Review* 33.1 (2003): 26-26. Web.
Available at: <https://doi.org/10.17077/0021-065X.5681>

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.

Dear Pastoral

You were cutting lemons when the child rushed in
and banged against your arm.

We compared the red line
spread across your knuckle to that of a coxcomb,

while the child sulked in the other room,
an edge of the tablecloth in his mouth.

When we sat down, you passed out the dinner plates
with your good hand.

We talked of the child's face,
its never-ending whiteness.

Afterwards, I went with the child for a walk.
You stood at the window and waved, hand still in its bandage.