

2005

# Odd and Full of Love: Northampton County Asylum, 1863

Adam Clay

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

Part of the [Creative Writing Commons](#)

---

## Recommended Citation

Clay, Adam. "Odd and Full of Love: Northampton County Asylum, 1863." *The Iowa Review* 35.3 (2005): 168-168. Web.  
Available at: <https://doi.org/10.17077/0021-065X.6090>

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](mailto:lib-ir@uiowa.edu).

ADAM CLAY

*Odd and Full of Love*

*Northampton County Asylum, 1863*

Once along this path it was as if God stirred me  
Between the eyes. My head: a frog falling from a cloud  
To a meadowed land where woodlarks forever search  
For twigs too heavy to carry. Upon waking, the stulp  
Where I stood was no more. I witnessed beetles moving  
Near my face as if for the first time free from the galling glow  
Of the sun. Larks reappeared. The song of their hungry young  
Sweetened the air. The beetles dropped to their holes  
And I thought of Mary and the many trees  
It would take to build a ship to sail to her.  
Hourly now a voice asks *Well honest John how fare you now at home*  
And my reply is thrown to the pigs each morn.