

THE PROSE POEM: AN INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL

Volume 2 | 1993

Cunning Convertibles

Peter Wortsman

© Providence College

The author(s) permits users to copy, distribute, display, and perform this work under the following conditions: (1) the original author(s) must be given proper attribution; (2) this work may not be used for commercial purposes; (3) the users may not alter, transform, or build upon this work; (4) users must make the license terms of this work clearly known for any reuse or distribution of this work. Upon request, as holder of this work's copyright, the author(s) may waive any or all of these conditions.

The Prose Poem: An International Journal is produced by
The Berkeley Electronic Press (bepress)
for the Providence College Digital Commons.
<http://digitalcommons.providence.edu/prosepoems/>

Peter Wortsman

CUNNING CONVERTIBLES

A shameless impostor, the convertible couches its secret compulsion beneath a seemingly innocuous slip cover. Whereas its ancient prototype, the Bed of Procrustes, modified the man to suit the mattress, the convertible pretends to be more accommodating. Nothing in fact can be further from the truth. Many a poor hapless fool lured by the illusion of enhanced dimensions, has lost a finger or toe, or disappeared altogether never to reemerge from the clutches of this cunning Venus Flytrap (*Dionaea Muscipula*)—sucked into the void of negative space, where the beast digests its prey, sometimes spitting out a bit of bone or lingerie caught in its cogs.