THE PROSE POEM: AN INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL

Volume 6 | 1997

The Prodigal Son Is Spotted On The Grassy Knoll

Dionisio D. Martinez

© 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/

Dionisio D. Martinez

THE PRODIGAL SON IS SPOTTED ON THE GRASSY KNOLL

—again. The question would be moot but for the fact that a single bullet has generated so many overlapping and contradictory theories; it would have all been over long ago if we had not kept asking ourselves what are the facts in the fact. The crowd—the cold-blooded, stainresistant crowd—is his weapon of choice. He is whistling "The Yellow Rose of Texas" to himself, but the song crashes into the slanting wind. This is found music at its corrosive best. John Cage might have called it accidental but necessary music; he might have said no composition is subject to die same interpretation twice, implying that written music is mostly not written and certainly never finished. Cage notwithstanding, his motive is yellow roses, tiger lilies in a tin can; it is the whistling itself.