



4-2006

## Polaroid Transfer

Chantelle Daines

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### Recommended Citation

Daines, Chantelle (2006) "Polaroid Transfer," *Inscape*: Vol. 26 : No. 1 , Article 10.  
Available at: <https://scholarsarchive.byu.edu/inscape/vol26/iss1/10>

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CHANTELLE DAINES

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I wandered into traffic's trail of smoke rings  
that smelled of gutter water and French breath,  
scents of Paris, its polluted mess.  
Bed-lacking nomads seek less unclean things.  
Children pickpocket jeans  
through subway doors to touch a tourist's wealth.  
People are impure.  
They're raped and left to heal  
alone,  
to hide the lives they lead.  
Paris bright-lighted buzz can never take  
away the loneliness because the streets  
themselves have never  
stood a solo stance.  
Time bruised-and-battered cobblestones can't  
trace  
trials carved from every dead man's roaming feet.  
This place is far too found for wanderers to reach.