



1991

## Winter

Cody Winchester

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### Recommended Citation

Winchester, Cody (1991) "Winter," *Inscape*: Vol. 11 : No. 2 , Article 22.

Available at: <https://scholarsarchive.byu.edu/inscape/vol11/iss2/22>

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# WINTER

*by Cody Winchester*



One December, a horse  
fell through ice and  
couldn't reach bottom in  
dark winter water.  
After that, we didn't glide  
on slippery paths anymore.  
When ice turned to slush,  
we stood silent and  
watched chains around  
the bloodstained skull  
grow taut and black tires dig.  
The dogs and birds ate away  
any flesh above the ice  
and after the first thaw,  
a tractor pulled out the rest.  
Around the warm stove, we  
tried not to think about  
being dead in inky black water  
for three months.