



6-15-2007

Sheriff Dennehy, After His Rebuffed Proposal

Robert Cooperman

Follow this and additional works at: <https://dc.swosu.edu/westview>

 Part of the [Fiction Commons](#), [Nonfiction Commons](#), [Photography Commons](#), and the [Poetry Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Cooperman, Robert (2007) "Sheriff Dennehy, After His Rebuffed Proposal," *Westview*: Vol. 26 : Iss. 1 , Article 41.
Available at: <https://dc.swosu.edu/westview/vol26/iss1/41>

This Poetry is brought to you for free and open access by the Journals at SWOSU Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Westview by an authorized administrator of SWOSU Digital Commons. For more information, please contact phillip.fitzsimmons@swosu.edu.



Sheriff Dennehy, After His Rebuffed Proposal

by Robert Cooperman

She didn't say "No" outright,
though I'll be damned
if I know what she did say
through all her flattery,
like words was fine whiskey.
She'll come around,
her tiny inheritance'll
run out fast, 'specially
if me and Banker van Gelder
come to an understanding.

I've done it with whores,
with Ute squaws I had to punch
before they'd squirm
feisty as ferrets,
and with that China doll
that cries before,
during, and after;
but something about Lavinia—
hair like an aspen
filled with autumn—
drives me to beg
for a church wedding.

Preacher was a fool
to take up with a hussy;
lucky for me he took
a careless step or got help;
don't matter, 'cept folks
is restless for an exaltation.

When Lavinia says "Yes,"
I'll know the difference
between grizzly-rough
and dove-gentle.

