



11-15-2000

## Serum

Anne Silver

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

Silver, Anne (2000) "Serum," *Westview*: Vol. 20 : Iss. 1 , Article 10.  
Available at: <https://dc.swosu.edu/westview/vol20/iss1/10>

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](mailto:phillip.fitzsimmons@swosu.edu).

# Serum

by Anne Silver

I hear my parents asleep  
in the next room  
spoons in love.  
That's a lie.  
They're dead  
and have no graves.  
That's a lie.  
My heart is their tomb.  
I sleep, hear nothing.  
That's a lie.  
I'm awake every night.  
That's a lie.  
I sleep in quick chapters  
a child again,  
listen to my parents sleep  
across the hall  
switchblades in twin beds.  
That's a lie.  
My body is in flames.  
I don't nap.  
Lie.  
The medicine boils  
then pitches  
me through the night.  
I stay awake  
guarding my ponytail  
from my brother's blade.  
Lie.  
I have no hair,  
not even a lash.

