

ABSTRACT

WILD BEAUTY: SELECTED POEMS

I read once that you cannot find yourself by going into the past; instead, it's only possible to find yourself by coming fully into the present. I thought about how this applied to me as a poet. I began to draw conclusions about my relationship to love. I wanted to uncover its complexities (and simplicities). Poetry was the medium to examine love: its design, insecurities, feeding patterns, its ability to pull me in and out of consciousness, and the way it governed my life.

As each poem began to surface, it managed to etch its skeletal-like body onto my skin. These fossils defined me. In the end, I found that the purest of emotions sit closest to subject matter; they serve as mouthpiece to the source. They live in the wild. This is where I go to find them. In order to truly love, one must be present.

Pilar Graham
May 2006