



1-17-99  
for Gita  
& VAB

the day you were born  
I woke up from a dream—  
the sun was coming in  
& everything was quiet.  
I think I had some tea  
& we sat together for a  
little while, listening  
at home  
at one

the song beginning  
in deep waves  
its long rise  
to breath

this morning I dreamed  
you were little again  
& your grandfather had made you  
a small desk beside his own  
so you could study  
while he worked.  
he was teaching you  
from a big poster  
about flowers  
—one of them looked  
like a spider lily.

sunrise  
was extravagant & delicious  
tangerine peach melon  
salmon mango raspberry  
the wind sang flamingo  
& sang

12-28-79

for 1-17-2000

from 1-17-1970

Gita Bodner

VR Bodner

in & out of sleep/dream

half moon on snow first breath

of dawn my daughter

holds up a gift of cloth

light shines through

feet first, hooded we ease out

the high east window

& go walking

in the still, bright air

from 1999  
into 2000

into the stream  
last year's leaves  
this year's leaves

one last moth on the screen  
the glass door frame still warm  
but outside — the river  
already brittle

the moon stares fiercely through my window  
but still I have to get a flashlight  
to be sure I'm not writing over  
some masterpiece

what is left of us that stays  
when arteries close  
& brain frazzles?

tears for lost loved ones  
for (these) words unspoken

poor bug! at the end  
of a spider's line,  
swinging

"...endless road..."

show me the way  
to go home..." RMB, in a dream

'in the dark time  
my son's voice "have you been up  
on the mountain?"

choose this way or that  
all lead to the top

on a different path  
I think of my daughter  
— wild turkey feather

what have I done?  
what have I not done?  
bluebirds hover  
just under the snow  
waiting to hear

lodged in the stream  
a beaver-chewed stick shakes  
with the current

sun washes down the mountain

like breath itself  
a flock of small birds — in  
& out across the orchard