
Pro Rege

Volume 18
Number 2 *Arts Issue*

Article 11

December 1989

Heirloom

Lorna Van Gilst
Dordt College

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcollections.dordt.edu/pro_rege



Part of the [Creative Writing Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Van Gilst, Lorna (1989) "Heirloom," *Pro Rege*: Vol. 18: No. 2, 19.

Available at: https://digitalcollections.dordt.edu/pro_rege/vol18/iss2/11

This Poetry is brought to you for free and open access by the University Publications at Dordt Digital Collections. It has been accepted for inclusion in Pro Rege by an authorized administrator of Dordt Digital Collections. For more information, please contact ingrid.mulder@dordt.edu.

Heirloom

Nobody wanted the blue pottery cat
Which had stood silent those many years
In Grandma's south bay window,
A cactus in place of its tail.

The peppermint jar, on the other hand,
Became an emotional issue—
Survivor of Sunday afternoon raids
By twenty-eight grandchildren.

The competition too keen for my claim
On the peppermint jar,
I rescued the ugly blue cat—
Only because it was Gram's,
 Not because it held charm.

Sedate on my windowsill,
the cat with the cactus tail
Gazes at me over the sink,
Content in meek pottery blue
 To stand in for a peppermint jar.

Lorna Van Gilst