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# Pro Rege

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Volume 12  
Number 2 *Arts Issue*

Article 20

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December 1983

## Scouting the Other

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### Recommended Citation

VanderMey, Randall (1983) "Scouting the Other," *Pro Rege*: Vol. 12: No. 2, 26.

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## Scouting the Other

In the vest pocket park  
where would-have-been  
is, I sport an eagle feather,  
wear a diamond in my ear, am a priest.

I meet a woman,  
sponge in her right hand, in her left a pie,  
and down I go  
on one knee to kiss the chipped paint  
on those cheese-rind dowels,  
her toes.

A crowd appears—  
a chubby man who sweats  
and can't breathe in, a teenage girl  
who could just throw herself into a hole,  
a man leading a pig, a mother  
who has one place setting too few,  
another lady who makes the best coffee—  
and for several passings of the sun  
I sit with beaded eyes  
listening to each relate how he or she  
is kin to Adam  
and all that time I am one,  
I say, without even trying I am one  
of them, and I am happy  
in that vest pocket park.