
Pro Rege

Volume 32
Number 2 *Fine Arts Issue 2003*

Article 8

December 2003

Corte el Pasto/Cut the Grass

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 (2003) "Corte el Pasto/Cut the Grass," *Pro Rege*: Vol. 32:
No. 2, 14.
Available at: https://digitalcollections.dordt.edu/pro_rege/vol32/iss2/8

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

Corte el Pasto/Cut the Grass

Lorna Van Gilst

Unruly tufts of green
 erupt in Lupe's yard—
Slender spears reach tall,
 then wave and fold
 into the wind,
and bounce upright
 in happy leaps of spring.

But Lupe's *el casero gringo*
comes to Lupe's house and says,
"Lupe, cut the grass.
Don't you know? I want
to sell the house."

Lupe says, "*Si*, okay,"
and gets into her car
and goes to work—
all night she scrubs and sweeps.
As morning dawns, she falls
into her bed and sleeps all day
until the buzz of mowing
breaks her peace.

Then *el casero* says again,
"Lupe, cut the grass.
Who will buy a house
with waving grass?"
Lupe just says, "Sorry,"
and goes off to work.

But three days later
Lupe finds a curious flower
growing in her yard,
dark-stemmed,
with one white bloom:

"This area
treated
chemically.
Keep off."

Lupe steps inside and goes to sleep.