

## **Missing**- 1984-85, *Poetry Ohio Issue* *George Looney*

In the center of Ohio is a field  
covered in white with a single line  
of four-toed prints almost hidden  
in new snow and a hill in the center.  
And in a three-street farming town  
in a gray-panelled house  
a woman bends over broken glass  
on the kitchen floor, her hands  
careful of the sharp edges,  
using a vacuum for the pieces  
she'd never see. In the livingroom  
a small boy huddles in the dark,  
tears drying on his face.  
He watches snow fall out the window,  
pulls at the bone-white buttons  
of his shirt, hides in the fold  
of his pocket one red-stained fragment,  
held tight as though it might  
disappear. He listens to the purr  
of the sweeper, closes his eyes  
and sleeps as the fields  
surrounding the town get deeper.  
In one, a hill gets larger  
as small four-toed prints disappear.  
Snow continues to fall out the windows.