

## Four Poems by Claire Field

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### Fair-haired

Darkness, like a storm,  
threatens to  
captivate the  
beloved one's  
white hair.

The precious one  
chastises  
this change,  
her collection  
of raindrops,  
coalescing,  
to form a  
sprite that  
works up  
her hair into  
a fairyland's  
glitz.

Evil, like a cyclone,  
does not  
undercut  
her style  
this time,  
evil's flat  
eye gleaming  
as far as we  
can reckon.

## **Jewel**

The diamond cuts into  
poverty, the pain the  
poor feel now nothing  
like what they feel on  
the streets.

Homeless no more,  
jobs galore, they lasso  
others, once a photo  
of themselves, with  
sophistication's loop.

## Lapse

She shares a blunder in  
thinking, using too many  
other intruders that land  
in the real world.

Others' hearts march  
in a synchronized beat,  
hoping that this strict  
march in feelings will  
protect them from this  
woman's failing.

But they, too, will  
crumble down the lane  
of forgetfulness.

The lass blooms with  
the horizon, her hands  
full of the wildflowers  
her mother calls  
illegitimate children.

We pray the girl will  
stay the way she is,  
dementia, a stepped  
on cornflake, when  
she births her  
nineties.

## Unclaimed Crush

Do you see the red shacks in the distance?  
One could be ours where we could tell  
stories and talk of love.

But you run away, the honeysuckle your  
guide for a prideful moment.

A hag dressed in cancer clothes steals  
you away to an early death.

I attend your funeral, although you do  
not care for me.

What can I say that's true? You were  
my unclaimed crush—like a box left  
at a train station unclaimed.

I could have tried harder to win your  
attention, but I stayed locked up in  
a forest's boldness.

**Claire T. Feild** is an English composition instructor. She has had poems accepted for publication in numerous print journals such as, *The Tulane Review*; *Chinaberries and Crows: An Anthology*; *Palimpsest: A Creative Journal of the Humanities*; *Zymbol Magazine*; *Folio*; *Welter*; *The Path: A Literary Magazine*; *Pinyon Review*; *Dewpoint Literary Magazine*; *Calidum Literary Magazine*; *Birmingham Arts Journal*; *Windmills*; *Words Dance*; *Coup d'Etat*; and *The Carolina Quarterly*. Her second collection of poetry, *Southern Aunts: The 1950s*, has just been published (summer 2013). *Indigo Blues*, a micro- chapbook has just been published (fall 2013) by the *Origami Poetry Project*. Her first poetry book is *Mississippi Delta Women in Prism*.