

Fall 2010

Baby Brother

Maritza Lievanos

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarworks.utrgv.edu/jostes>

Recommended Citation

Lievanos, M. (2010). Baby Brother. *Jostes: The Journal of South Texas English Studies*, 2(1).

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by ScholarWorks @ UTRGV. It has been accepted for inclusion in *Journal of South Texas English Studies* by an authorized administrator of ScholarWorks @ UTRGV. For more information, please contact justin.white@utrgv.edu, william.flores01@utrgv.edu.

Baby Brother

My hands gripped the hospital bed.
My hair is pulled back—
a careless pony tail.
My figure has been distorted,
my loneliness displayed –
his absence, proof of –
his disgust for me.
Out of this disgusting pleasure,
a beautiful life conceived.
I am here, half naked,
like on that night,
half asleep,
like on that night,
powerless,
like on that night.
The nurses yelling,
“push, push, exhale, inhale...
blah, blah, blah,” no one
coached me on that night.
No injection to numb
the pain. No helping hand.
No one was there to cheer me on.
Their staring eyes- judging me
making me feel like a tramp –
as if I had asked for it.
I plan to keep him.
He will know how important *I* am.
Although he'll tear me like his father did,
my body will never resent him.
My hips pulled apart, my body aches,
my face distorted...while others grin.
I feel violated...
I see perfection in my arms!
I will name him Inocencio, Benigno,
Santos or Angel
a name that will never remind me –
of him.