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## **My Dream: Jesus, Wilderness, Satan's Sweet**

Honoree Fanonne Jeffers

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**In lieu of** an abstract, here is a brief excerpt of the content:

### **My Dream: Jesus, Wilderness, Satan's Sweet**

*Honorée Fanonne Jeffers (bio)*

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Maker, Whoever You are (Who are You?),

I wish You would unknit my flesh, speak me  
back to ashes—You can do that, can't You?  
My dream: Jesus, wilderness, Satan's sweet  
blues as he stands next to baby brother  
(yes, I said it), spirit, the trinity—  
O etcetera and Satan erupts  
but not before dusting his wingtip shoes.  
I know what's coming: *Faith in wrists uncut?*  
*Show some power, Jesus, I'm feeling used.*  
*Can't You take back my gut string memories?*  
*Did You think this was the life I would choose?*  
Now I'm Satan, mad, clicking his clean teeth,  
strutting his damned pimp stroll, arrogance, sin.  
Speaking on some childhood night, torn, bleeding.  
No nostalgia, a loved point stressed again,  
but Daddy memories pacing his tongue.  
This *other* son—what was his real sin?  
I should trust a God who would kill his sons?  
Ah yes, now I sin, but can't hide from You.  
It's me—no God or devil or Your loved one.  
It's me now, Maker, giving You the blues.  
My bargain: take it, take the night away  
and I promise You praises—You can't lose.  
And if You be Maker, but You won't say—  
*Whoever*—then crumble this easy flesh  
(no bread). Close my eyes to the broke down day.

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### **Honorée Fanonne Jeffers**

Honorée Fanonne Jeffers is author of two books of poems, *The Gospel of Barbecue* (Kent State University Press, 2000) and *Outlandish Blues* (Wesleyan University Press, 2003). Some of her new work has appeared in *The Kenyon Review*, *Callaloo*, *Brilliant Corners: A Journal of Jazz and Literature*, *Prairie Schooner*, *Ploughshares*, and the anthology *These Hands I Know: Writing About the African-American Family*. She is an assistant professor of English at the University of Oklahoma and a book review editor of *Callaloo*.

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## MY DREAM: JESUS, WILDERNESS, SATAN'S SWEET

by Honorée Fanonne Jeffers

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