

## **FM REVIEW 2015 7COMMENTS**

**COMMENTS TO EDITOR:** This poem describes in vivid detail a temporary process of dissociation, the losing - and thankfully the regaining - of self. It recounts being in one's body but losing all sense of who that body belongs to. It has many strong lines, but needs more work. Thankfully, reviewer 1 has performed a close reading of the piece and contributed many excellent suggestions. I have also attempted some revisions, which are attached. Reviewers were both positive. I think with some additional work, it will make a good addition to the journal.

**COMMENTS TO AUTHOR:** This poem succeeds very well in evoking a temporary experience of dissociation. The emotional tone is one of confusing, bewildering loss, followed by thankfulness for the reemergence of the self. The poem contains many strong lines and images. However, it needs more tightening. Please think about cutting and focusing. Look for a stronger last line. Reviewer 1 has offered many helpful suggestions. I've also MADE some edits, particularly playing off the idea that according to post-modernists, the self is just a construct anyway; and whether this is reassuring or not. This will be a compelling poem that draws readers in with a little more wordsmithing.

**COMMENTS TO EDITOR II:** The author has put considerable effort into revising this poem about a transient episode of dissociation. Not only has he meticulously followed changes suggested by reviewer 1, he has also worked to tighten and focus the poem, as well as crafting an excellent concluding two lines. I recommend accepting this version as written.

**COMMENTS TO AUTHOR II:** Well done! This version is indeed tighter, more focused. Stripped of abstract theorizing, it immerses us in an uncomfortable experience with such specificity that it seems the dissociation is happening not only to narrator but to reader. Getting rid of the "time zone" metaphor helped ("trance" is much better). The last two lines are terrific - they raise all the meta-questions that preoccupy post-modernists about the nature of self, but do so pithily and wittily.