

**FOR THE ACCIDENTAL SINNER**      **by Ashley Crout**

My mother saw the crucifixion in dogwood blooms.  
My grandfather whipped us bloody with their branches.  
Together they stitched the child I was into Baptist pews.  
What I believe they believed is this would save me.

My grandfather whipped us bloody with their branches.  
This meant we'd sinned somehow, listened to the devil.  
What I believe they believed is this would save me.  
I knew nothing about nothing, but Jesus had sad blue eyes.

I never knew what meant I'd sinned. I never heard the devil.  
I loved the blonde angel girl in the Christmas play, marriage love.  
I knew nothing about nothing, but Jesus had sad blue eyes.  
What is dangerous about the devil is his beauty.

I loved the blonde angel girl in the Christmas play, marriage love.  
This I would never repent. I could not pray her away.  
What is dangerous about the devil is his beauty.  
My mother saw the crucifixion in dogwood blooms.