

In the Ords: CSUMB Literary Arts Journal

Volume 1
Issue 1 *Identities*

Article 5

12-6-2017

Two Wholes of a Half

Marley Forsyth
California State University, Monterey Bay

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.csumb.edu/ords>

Recommended Citation

Forsyth, Marley (2017) "Two Wholes of a Half," *In the Ords: CSUMB Literary Arts Journal*: Vol. 1 : Iss. 1 , Article 5.
Available at: <https://digitalcommons.csumb.edu/ords/vol1/iss1/5>

This Poetry is brought to you for free and open access by the Student Publications at Digital Commons @ CSUMB. It has been accepted for inclusion in *In the Ords: CSUMB Literary Arts Journal* by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons @ CSUMB. For more information, please contact digitalcommons@csumb.edu.

Two Wholes of a Half

I am taking a test;
the STAR,
the CASHEE,
the SAT, the ACT.

I am filling out an application:
the CA DMV, The Bank of something,
The California State University of fill in the blank.
I'm looking at the test proctor, at the bank teller,
at the man or woman behind the desk looking at me,
waiting for me to—
I must choose.

I am looking at the boxes,
Staring at the boxes.

Which one do I choose?

Who in the hell made this a decision that I must make anyways?

I am reading the fine print,
Only check one, you cannot check two.

You can only be one...
But what if i'm not just one?

What if I am two,
three,

or what if I was all four?
Is there really only four?

Only four of a kind that you will grade,
Only four of a kind that you will accept,
Only four of a kind that you will
Box?

I must choose,
I must pick,
and it can only be one.

You must decide on a half
and that's all you will ever be...
but what if I have decided that I want to be whole?

Looking at the boxes,
Staring at the boxes:

"White/Caucasian", "Hispanic", "African American/Black", "Asian".

You cannot be whole.

Because in this world:
two halves don't make a whole,
but two wholes do make a half.

I am drawing my own box,
and I am making it BIG.

I may not be whole,
but I am Full.

Full of race.

Full of culture.

Full of perspective.

Full of choice.