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## Loser

Sara deBeer

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Sara deBeer

## Loser

*Without thinking  
Without blinking  
My eyes rapidly  
Stamp each person I see;  
I use a rating  
Hating  
That I have an internal  
(infernial)  
Sliding scale  
Female  
Male  
Dark to pale  
Body size and shape  
I gape  
To see how unlike me  
These beings can be.*

*Reported, then sorted:  
Those to steer away from  
I'm done  
With most of the room  
So soon  
Rejected  
Ejected  
From my world view  
Only a few  
Worth talking to.*

*But what of the remark  
The spark  
The flint-striking-steel  
I steal  
Without thinking  
Without blinking  
From my own chance to know  
To grow  
Beyond rapid-fire choosing  
Once again losing  
The awareness of the cost  
Of what I've lost.*

**Sara deBeer** of West Hartford, Ct, has been working as a storyteller since 1978; she is also an experienced classroom teacher with degrees from Yale and Bank Street. In her work as a teaching artist in public and private schools, Sara designs programs which tie in with on-going classroom studies of science, social studies, and language arts. Teachers who work with Sara soon recognize that stories can be a tool for helping students learn any subject.



Photo by Brian Guevara