

The 2003 Editors' Prize Contest Winners

THE
SPOON
RIVER Poetry Review

*David Keplinger
Honorable Mention*

Lorca's Passport

In the photograph,
Which we know
The poet admired,
Which we know
He called *spiritualistic*,
The vague,
Spotted bowtie
Like a moth
Has come to rest
Slightly crooked
At his throat.
His shirt glows,

The visible portion
An upside down
Triangle or a lily
That has opened
To bear his head,
From the dark
Of the charcoal
Buttoned suit.
One eye on his face
Is shadowed. One ear
Is black, sucked
Into his hair.

The ear we can see
Is a luminous egg.
There is a pinprick
In the center.
The other eye's socket
Swallows his pupil
Like a mote. "It borders
On the light
Of murder,"
He once wrote of it,
"Over my shoulder,
A sort of harp..."