

2002

Loving Her in Balinese

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Recommended Citation

Fuselier, Ginna (2002) "Loving Her in Balinese," *Exile*: Vol. 48 : No. 1 , Article 12.
Available at: <https://digitalcommons.denison.edu/exile/vol48/iss1/12>

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Loving her in Balinese

There are six of them-
six pairs of fluttering,
done-up eye lashes
enacting practiced,
Balinese moves.
A woman closely
watches the dancer
in front of her.
Shimming and shaking
the tassels on her costume,
the dancer captures
the woman's eye.
Without flinching
from the man's
coughing beside her,
the woman
continues admiring.
She is in awe
of the dancer who
turned vegetarian during
her college years,
the one who wants the
simple wedding outdoors.
The woman smiles
in motherly acceptance.
That is her daughter
out there, on that stage.
That is her bare-footed
dancer in gold trimming,
the one flexing her hands,
and moving them
through the air.

--Ginna Fuselier '0.