

MAN *

Jody Neff

See the fleeting, restless spot
 That moves with uncertain jagged paths
 And suffers with no thoughts or reasons.
 Watch as, struggling, it pursues
 Each short-lived goal but fails
 To find its purpose on the earth.
 Feel the strength it spends in vain
 To answer all the fears and doubts
 That hang like clouds above it ;
 Weep never for this one small spot,
 Lost in depths no man should seek,
 For that spot is one man's life.



to love with myself *

Jody Neff

To help the needy, mind and spirit too,
 And then to be of understanding mind
 Is what, in all this world, I want to do,
 But searching through my selfish heart I find
 That bitter feelings, lack of true desire
 Stand in the way of filling my soul's gap ;
 No matter how my spirit is afire
 Or how my mind is laid out like a map,
 My pride stands tall and doesn't bend to aid
 Unless I gain security in needs
 They have—of things they are afraid—
 The ground is ripe, but I don't sow the seeds.
 No matter how much I may have to give,
 I cannot share 'til with myself I live.

* Freshman Writing.