

5-1-2007

## Sin and Salvation

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### Recommended Citation

LaRocco, Samantha (2007) "Sin and Salvation," *Hieroglyphics: the NSU University School Literary Magazine*: Vol. 14 , Article 87.  
Available at: [https://nsuworks.nova.edu/uschool\\_litmag/vol14/iss1/87](https://nsuworks.nova.edu/uschool_litmag/vol14/iss1/87)

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## **Sin and Salvation**

*Samantha La Rocco*

He pounds his fist against the wall,  
His back to the crime scene,  
His face contorted with a guilt he cannot  
swallow  
Years of repentance  
To end a life of sin  
Erased in a bolt of rage.

Can he be saved?

She slams the door with a rigid hand,  
Her cruel high heeled feet hitting the pavement,  
Dragging tattered baggage with each first hand  
Leaving a defeated man  
And a little girl  
Whose cries fall on deaf ears.

Who will be saved?

He knows the dark alleys,  
His underworld, his home.  
Shaking, shriveled hands,  
Reach for quickly fading coins  
To feed the toxic habit  
For the first last time.

How can he be saved?

Closed blinds in a sunless room,  
A chamber untouched by time,  
She hides her face in her hands  
And herself from the world,  
Turning her back to the mirror  
For fear of the tricks her mind will play.

When will she be saved?

Thousands live,  
Thousands die,  
Thousands pray,  
For absolution

For forgiveness  
For peace  
That can never come

Some can heal,  
Yet no one is saved.