

Poetic Aspirations

Robert Nelson

I want to be the Mormon Allen Ginsberg
I'll howl about the September Six
and the firing of BYU professors
I'll stay up all night
on Diet Coke
I'll hold placards in the street
to protest the splitting of wards
or the latest high council talk
I'll grow a moustache
or even a beard
I'll listen to the music
of the sexually impure—
Mozart, Beethoven, even
Tchaikovsky—
And I'll read books by
Known liberals—
Lowell Bennion, Gene England
even Hugh B. Brown.
I'll take it all
and turn it into words
not the caw caw caw of crows
but of gulls circling crying
to the Lord Lord Lord.