
2013

The Cat by Charles Baudelaire

Susan McLean

Southwest Minnesota State University, susan.mclean@smsu.edu

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarworks.wmich.edu/transference>



Part of the French and Francophone Language and Literature Commons, and the Poetry Commons

Recommended Citation

McLean, Susan (2013) "*The Cat* by Charles Baudelaire," *Transference*: Vol. 1: Iss. 1, Article 25.
Available at: <https://scholarworks.wmich.edu/transference/vol1/iss1/25>

Susan McLean
The Cat

Charles Baudelaire
Le Chat

My lovely cat, come, sheathe your claws;
on my enamored heart lie prone
and let me plumb your gorgeous eyes,
where metal's sheen meets agate's stone.

While my fingers leisurely
caress your head and supple back,
sensing your body's energy
with each intoxicated stroke,

I see my mistress in my heart.
Like yours, my charming beast, her gaze,
profound and cold, cuts like a dart,

and from her, head to foot, there strays
a faint perfume, a subtle hint
of her dark body's dangerous scent.