

1990

Innercity Detroit

Kamaljit K. Bagga

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



Part of the Creative Writing Commons

Recommended Citation

Bagga, Kamaljit K. (1990) "Innercity Detroit," *Calliope (1954-2001)*: Vol. 1990 , Article 31.

Available at: <https://scholarworks.wmich.edu/calliope/vol1990/iss1/31>

This Poetry is brought to you for free and open access by the English at ScholarWorks at WMU. It has been accepted for inclusion in Calliope (1954-2001) by an authorized editor of ScholarWorks at WMU. For more information, please contact wmu-scholarworks@wmich.edu.

Innercity Detroit

Mother, I watch you as we leave
Burton International School's parking lot
after our day in your classroom,
stapling posters on the bulletin board
before classes resume.

We see a dark man with burnt taffy skin
clenching his son's hand
walking fast, peering behind.

Another man struts pompously behind
grinning as he catches up
"Where's my goddamn money," he shouts,
shaking his fist.

The boy clings to his father's legs
crying.

Pulling over to Cass Avenue's side,
startled, you sob too, Mother
into your embroidered handkerchief.

For ten minutes we park
until you breathe deeply
and we drive home
to our suburb Norethville
silently.

Kamaljit K. Bagga