Poker
BY NICOLE STEINBERG

"Winner of the The Grossbardt Memorial Poetry Prize"

1.
I don’t cook but I’d learn.
I don’t clean but I’d consider it.
If you let me hide where you sleep,
Drip over your hips like a Dalí clock
And give me something to feel
just once, maybe
I’d cook.

2.
In a Best Western in Massachusetts my
mother tells me not to cry; things will
improve. I’m a cool girl from New York
and I can get a boyfriend if I play my cards right.

This isn’t a poker game. This metaphor
is a shipwreck. The bed is too small.

3.
Dear Boys, My best quality
Is that I am full of shit
And if you are full of shit
I will know.

The contributors of
Laurel Moon
Oblique

In their own words

WHITNEY COHEN
Whitney Cohen feels blessed to be able to spend her life doing what
she is passionate about: she writes (national award for her work in The
Justice, her senior thesis one-woman show Sweet Inverted Princess,
ten published poems); she sings (since age six, scores of professional
productions, musicals and concerts all over); she advocates (nearly
$10,000 raised for violence-fighting charities through V-Day and her
own work); she teaches (years as assistant director of a children’s
theater, role-model royalty at King Richard’s Faire); she breathes
(harm none do what ye will); she creates (paid graphic artist for seven
years); she learns.

JAYME KURLAND
Junior Brandeisian against war.

MERON LANGSNER
Meron is a graduate student working toward his MFA in Playwriting.

JESSICA MARKS
Jessica Marks is a riddle wrapped in an enigma wrapped in a vest.

SRAYANA REDDY
Hails from a land where the peacock eyes three oceans flow from
the sky. At present, has a love-hate relationship with physics. Enjoys
jogging in the crisp chill of dawn, and tries to romanticize Yakus
Pond. Is learning to tire of rain and love the sun instead. Absolutely
adores math, and computers.

KATHRYN SCHWARTZ
Kathryn Schwartz is a junior currently studying art on the island.