

Oral Presentation O13.4

THY FATHER AND THY MOTHER: A COLLECTION OF POETRY

Natalie Lalagos and Michael Theune*
English Department, Illinois Wesleyan University

Thy Father and Thy Mother is a collection of poetry that explores personal family difficulties. Although family is a unifying theme throughout the collection, the poems reveal various thoughts and perspectives on the situation. The collection's critical preface explores the ways in which the writing of a unified manuscript allows for a microscopic focus in each poem. This focus created an opportunity to make connections between the past and the present that had not previously been made. Additionally, this project explores the ways in which poetry can serve as a vehicle for understanding the past, and is a manifestation of the ability of poetry to transform sadness into art.