2012

The wicker baby

Tara Goedjen
University of Wollongong, tg877@uowmail.edu.au
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Abstract
A woman is told to collect rocks and wood for the hearth. She walks across a field beside a cliff where she finds a pile of tiny stones. By and by, one begins to move. She picks it up and it cracks open, dousing her hands..............

Keywords
wicker, baby

Disciplines
Arts and Humanities | Law

Publication Details

This creative work is available at Research Online: http://ro.uow.edu.au/lhapers/476
The Wicker Baby

A woman is told to collect rocks and wood for the hearth. She walks across a field beside a cliff where she finds a pile of tiny stones. By and by, one begins to move. She picks it up and it cracks open, dousing her hands in water. She tosses the slippery halves into the grass and looks for something more suitable. By and by, she comes...
across a larger rock under a tree. She heaves the heavy rock onto her shoulders. The
dead branches she plucks from the tree, then ties the bundle to her waist. On her way
back, she stumbles over a small basket in the middle of the field. Oh! A child is inside
the basket. It begins to cry. The basket is wicker and compatible. The woman places
them both in her pocket, carrying them to the hearth.
SALLY EVANS is a poet and PhD candidate at the University of Wollongong. Her poetry has previously been published in Islet, TIDE and One Horse Town.

She blogs at www.tallandignorantservants.tumblr.com

TARA GOEDJEN’s fiction has appeared in North American journals such as AGNI, BOMB, Denver Quarterly, Quarterly West and New England Review, and most recently in Fairy Tale Review and Meanjin. She is a candidate in the Doctorate of Creative Arts program at the University of Wollongong, where she is at work on a novel about ghosts.

The Fish Baby first appeared in Denver Quarterly; The Dirt Baby first appeared in Sentence.