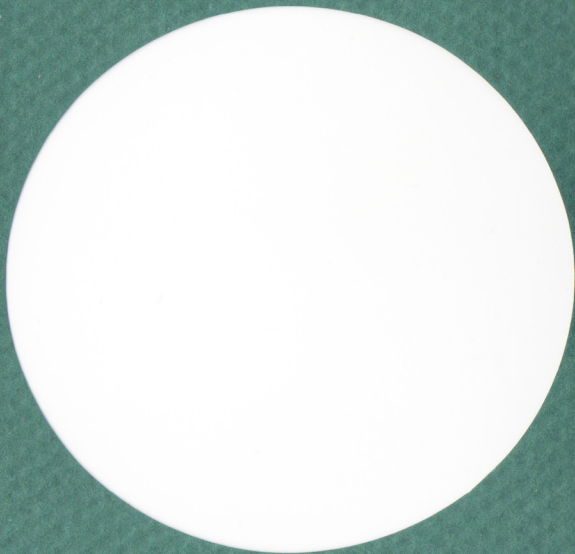
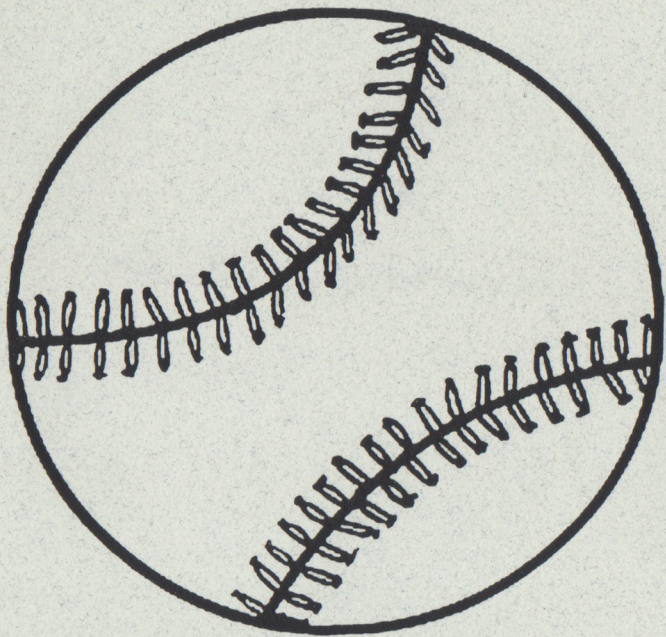


in a breath




Jeannie F. Martin

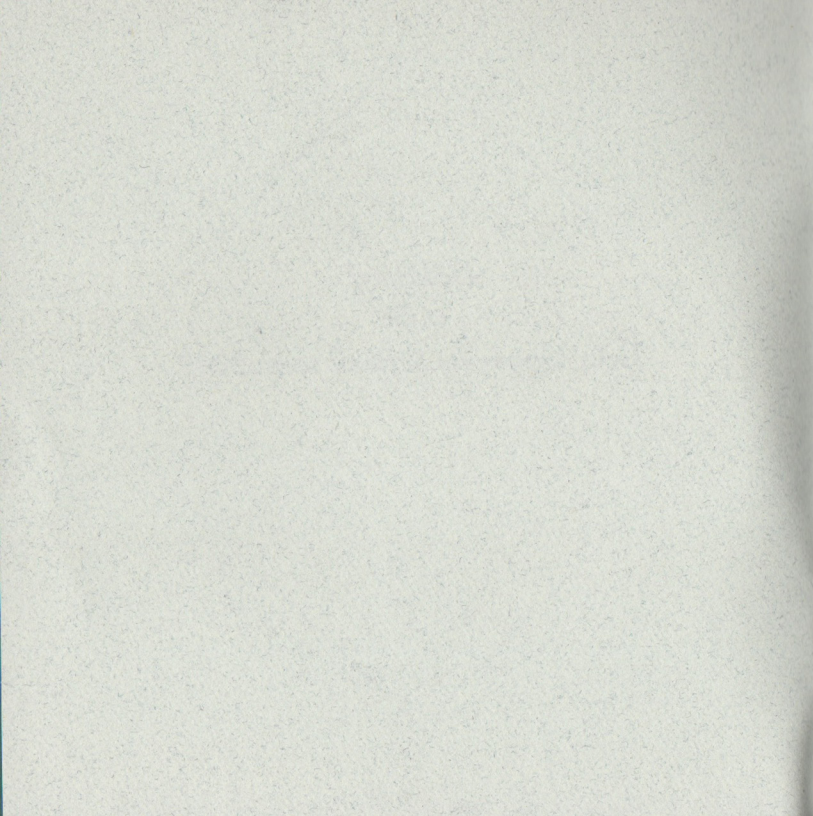


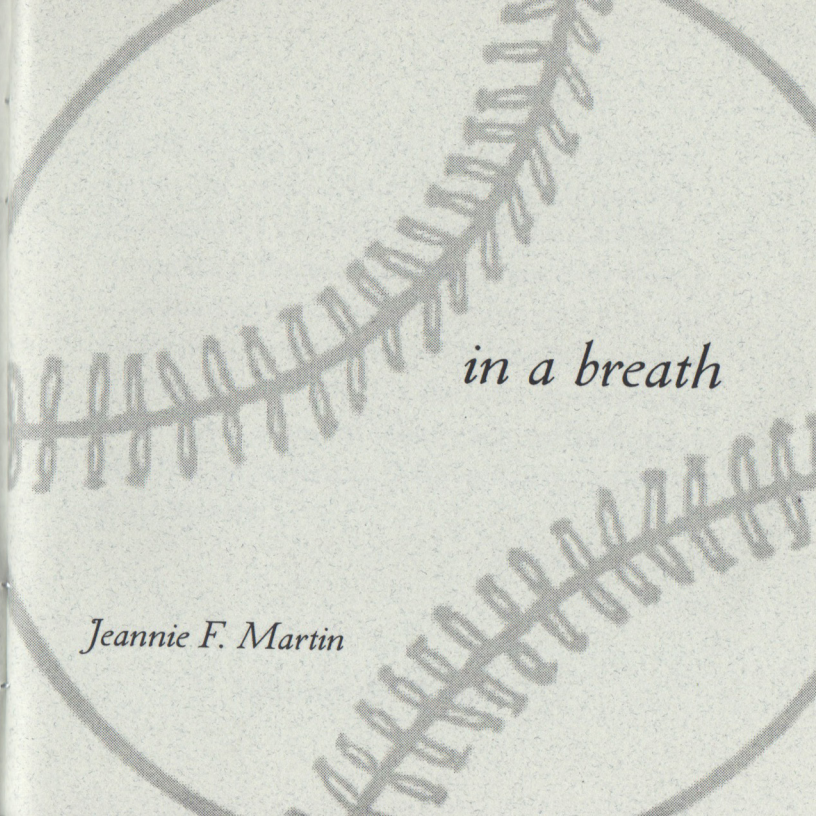






*Dedicated
to the
Tufts University Softball team 2007*





in a breath

Jeannie F. Martin

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Baseball has been the subject of authentic haiku for years. Now it is time for softball. Both games embody some of the Zen-like qualities reflected in haiku: how everything can change in an instant, moments of acute awareness, and deep connection with nature. It is my hope that this delicate poetry form will reflect some of what each softball player and fan experiences. May you enjoy this, at your leisure.

Jeannie F. Martin

Summer 2007

sunny day—
no shadow
on the softball

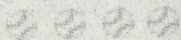
to throw
without thinking—
years of practice



wild catch—
only her glove
off the ground



so many
foul balls—
summer stars



two strikes—
her fast pitch
takes forever

two outs
full count—
the moment

homerun!
everyone cares
but the dog



spring showers—
the softball
heavier and heavier

grounder to first
in a breath—
the out

bad call—
the low murmur
of fans



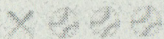
no hits, no runs—
ninth inning
meditation



late
swing
the twilight

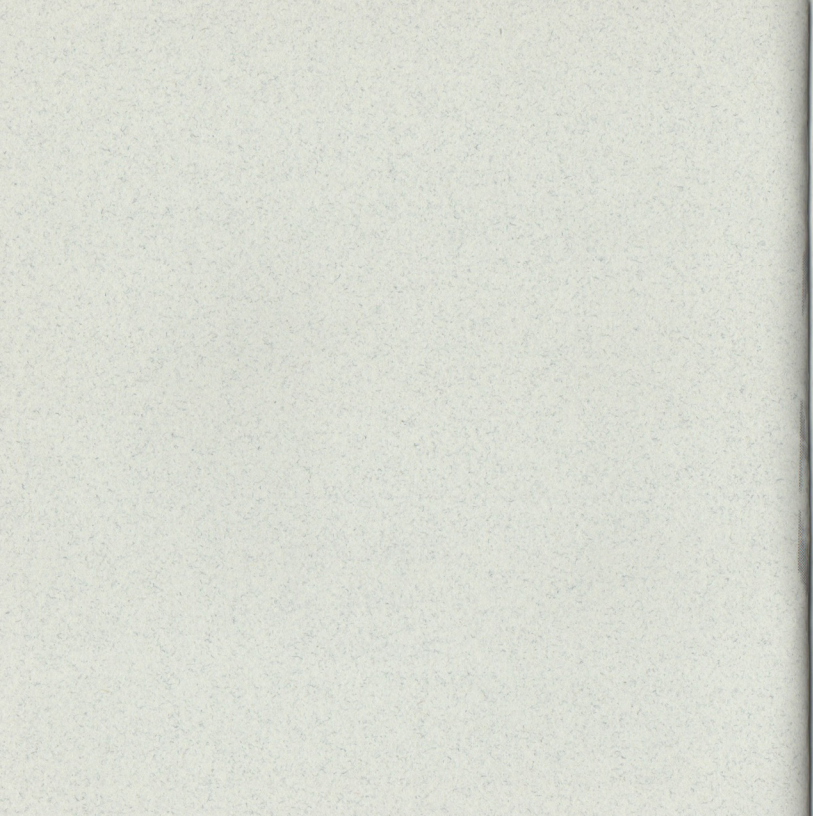
X 2 2

last pitch—
the centerfielder moves back
and further back



game's end
the grass—
its stillness

X 01



COLOPHON

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