

# For August and Enkidu

*by Gary Hardaway*

Hello, Enkidu,  
my favorite black cat.  
He is our only black cat  
but doesn't need to know that.  
Even among the thousands of black cats  
in the world, though, he would nonetheless  
be my favorite with those impurities of light brown tufts  
that sprout here and there amid the dusty looking black that doesn't  
glisten in the sunlight like the panther's almost blue-black coat and  
that  
of August, my best friend from college's sleek and friendly black cat  
surely dead but well remembered now after all these years.

