

Fall 2000

# be consoled

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## Recommended Citation

Humphreys, Deborah S.C. (2000) "be consoled," *Vincentian Heritage Journal*: Vol. 21: Iss. 2, Article 5.  
Available at: <http://via.library.depaul.edu/vhj/vol21/iss2/5>

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## be consoled

BY

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7 DECEMBER 2001

In the wilderness, I will put cedar trees,  
acacias, myrtles, and olive trees, in the desert

I will plant juniper, plane tree and cypress  
side by side

*Isaiah 41:19*

**O** city of miracles, subterranean mosaic  
where signs carry the force  
of authority—the forbidden, the expected—  
where the authority of force comes  
from above

life scrapes by, making a river  
bed so others will be able to follow  
from the rough digging—in underside  
of our bellies searching always

in this postage stamp eden. breath  
may slap hard, the haphazard cut  
of exasperation yet the promise is awaited  
for gentler hands at work tending to the varieties

people for this city, those sturdy enough to root  
in sand or split open rock, beautiful lights, shining

on their green faces pushing up and through  
cracks in sidewalk beds,  
determination like steam  
rising from banked fires

in the city, miracles  
of the new  
exodus