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Images: Women in Transition

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Sharpening Intellect | Deepening Christian Faith | Inspiring Action

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tudes: the arrogant, superior type; the gallant, protective type and the rational, skeptical type. The novel is written from the point of view of the third. The first is eventually expelled from Herland.

A lengthy introduction by Ann J. Lane is included where the reader is introduced not only to the other literary work of Gilman, but to a brief sketch of her life. *Herland* is a delightful and thoroughly enjoyable story and Gilman is another sister in our American past that we will benefit from knowing.

Alice Ebi Kestler
Metuchen, New Jersey

Images: Women in Transition

Compiled by Janice Grana
St. Mary's College Press, Winona, Minn.,
1977.
Paper, \$3.95, 144 pp.

Images is an anthology of poems, prayers and short prose peices written by over ninety Christian women. It is a response to the need for women to express their deep feelings, frustrations, joys and longings. It is choosing a medium of beauty for theologizing. The attractive layout and accompanying pictures enhance that beauty.

Images cannot help but speak to the reader, male or female, middle-class or poor, for its personal statements are universal to the human heart, especially to the Christian. Try this for a poetic elucidation of Genesis 1:27:

The Image of God

Man
here I am
a woman.

Let me take your hands
both hands in mine
and ask that you would look at me
straight—eye to eye.

Accept me as I am
Honor my integrity.
Love me as a fellow child of God
made with you
in his image.

—Frances Marian Lightbourn

Perhaps the following poem expresses what has been done by these many women as they seek to put their thoughts and feelings into words.

For the Glory of God

Each of us is gifted
with the alabaster jar,
we watch and listen for the time
when it is right to break it open
spilling the precious insides
over what we have discovered
is eternal, good, and true.

There'll be noise about it.
"Not practical!"
"What a waste!"
"We didn't say you could do that!"
"You're wrong!"

But one voice,
whispering, maybe,
enters the chaos
and says for those who hear,

"Let her alone.
Why do you trouble her?
She has done
a beautiful thing for me."

—Greta Schumm

Choosing only two selections does not do justice to the wide variety of topics presented in this anthology. Reading this book may stimulate others to record their thoughts to share with family and friends.

David Johnson (Oak Park, Illinois) and
Reta Finger