

face is laughter P.S.

Doug Schmidt

Bored Men and Little Children

In this repugnant world
mind-bred darkness swallows man
as he runs from day to night.
The human world.
This race of men,
so many lost now on their trek into darkness.
Losing track of how many things they've tried —
— so little left to amuse them.
Insidious boredom —
from the stench of life's simple things
the beast runs
to the limit of this empty jungle.
I was one of the little ones
left alone too long after the hours had slipped —
into darkness.
The beast found me.
I was awake and crying.
The tired beast yawned, then —
swallowed me up
and my eyes saw the innards of uncontrollable man.
Wretched memories of young days spent dreaming
of the returning beast and I dream of that beast today.
Disturbing introduction to the human world —
jungle-world in its human boredom
and its beast-like men.

by Teresa Lavoie

Friends

The conversation lulls
into silence. Her eyes
retreat. Drifting thoughts
catch her, carry her.
I follow.

Darkness holds her there
in those chambers... thick
and close: suffocating.
I falter.

Spirit... the hidden faces
who breathe my presence,
my invading eyes.
I wait.

The garments linger,
hesitant to reveal. Then
slipping so gently, soft
and reaching, intangible;
exposing truths.
I watch.
I listen, touch.

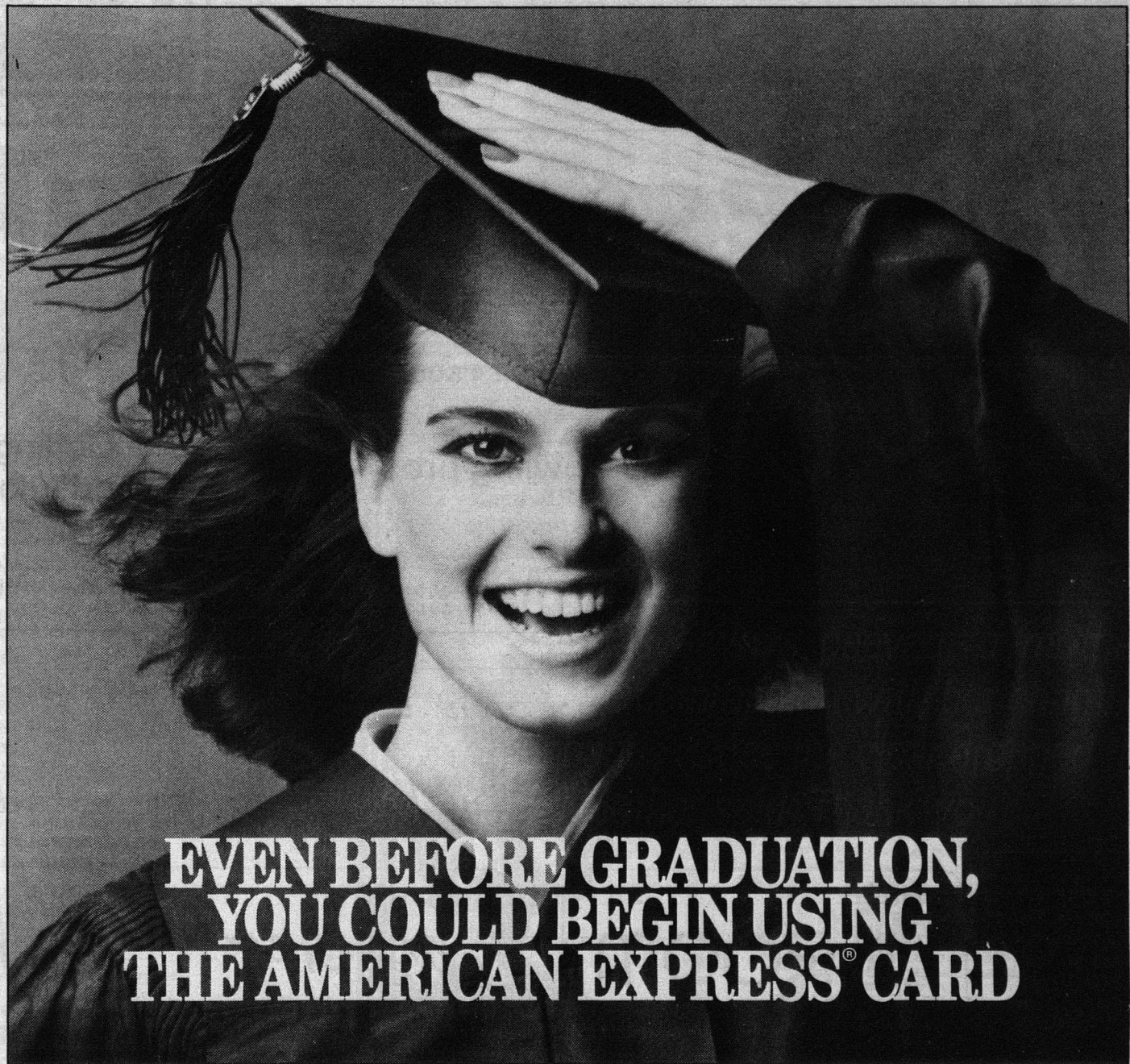
Blending to one
as colors to white,
yesterdays into tomorrows.
No moment remains; each frame
complete. She smiles
and once again, we talk.
My friend and I.

by Beverly H. Anderson

(untitled)

The brilliant moon
Shining through the power lines:
Cold in the city.

by John R. Manuel



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