



# *English Studies in Latin America*

## **Shaulamhu**

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## Shaulamhu

Danette Beavers<sup>1</sup>

Little Washo<sup>i</sup> girl

*Shaulamhu! Naughty*  
little girl

Shau-lam-hu

A breathing word that inhales hope  
and exhales despair  
for a girl who cries like the western winds  
that keen through Sierra Nevada  
and shrill through cracks in the walls  
of *galash dungal*, her house.

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<sup>1</sup> Danette Beavers is a member of the Washo Tribe of Nevada and California. She currently resides in Santiago, Chile with her Chilean husband and two children. She has been writing fiction for three years and is currently trying her hand at song writing. She has published in *Perspectives*, an anthology by the Santiago Writers, whom she joined when she first began her writing career.

When she pays me a visit,  
stamping a fit of temper and shouting her hate of  
absolutely everything,  
I mostly ignore her,  
the brat!

But sometimes compassion pinches  
me on the arm.

I smooth her crooked black bangs,  
clean her face with a warm moist towel  
and give her some hot tea  
with biscuits.

Funny girl: she's very fond of hot tea  
and biscuits.

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<sup>1</sup>The Washo Tribe is located in western Nevada and California