

Lyn Lifshin

“When I Think of the Lions, their Circle around the Mewing Girl”

how, kidnapped, held and beaten
7 days, she was crying, 12. She
was whimpering, mewing, the
sound maybe like a lion cub.
She was making that noise
when the lions rescued her,
chased off the abductors, the
men who had been beating her,
attacking her. Girls are raped to
give in to marriage. The lions
heard something, scared them off.
Three lions guarded her, protected
her for half a day before police
and her family found them. It
could have been much worse,
young girls raped over and
over, deep in the black green.
7 days, beaten over and over.
Whimpering and crying.
This is why they didn't eat her