

1978

At the Home

Charlotte Mandel

Follow this and additional works at: <https://ir.uiowa.edu/iowareview>

Part of the [Creative Writing Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Mandel, Charlotte. "At the Home." *The Iowa Review* 9.4 (1978): 33-33. Web.
Available at: <https://doi.org/10.17077/0021-065X.2382>

This Contents is brought to you for free and open access by Iowa Research Online. It has been accepted for inclusion in The Iowa Review by an authorized administrator of Iowa Research Online. For more information, please contact lib-ir@uiowa.edu.

At The Home · *Charlotte Mandel*

Dora dances with tottering ease
Beside the spinet my father plays.
Old songs beat like nickels on the keys.

She spins, he pedals, his fingers seize
Self-taught octaves, skim on moonlit bays.
Dora dances with tottering ease,

Hands on her hips. A remembered breeze
Rocks in time the woody trunk she sways.
Old songs beat like nickels on the keys—

Raisins-almonds, a Jolson reprise—
From damask wing-chairs, white heads nod each phrase.
Dora dances with tottering ease,

At twilight, held in parentheses
Of drapes half-drawn on the window bays.
Old songs beat like nickels on the keys—

A gauze man floats the flying trapeze.
Kitchen-help quietly stack the trays.
Dora dances with tottering ease.
Old songs beat like nickels on the keys.