

1980

To Mary Barnard

Sandra McPherson

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

Part of the [Creative Writing Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

McPherson, Sandra. "To Mary Barnard." *The Iowa Review* 11.2 (1980): 188-188. Web.
Available at: <https://doi.org/10.17077/0021-065X.2605>

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.

To Mary Barnard · *Sandra McPherson*

You are still translating the *Iliad*.
 It wavers on a surface
Like your pond's—
Though Sappho is done,
 In fragments.
Here and there a swan underfeather.

Homer mutters, Sappho whispers.

And you have
 The quietest voice of all.
Often by your pond
You must stand so pleased
 That not one image sinks.
Nor your reflection,

Its honorary body.