

1998

## Versions to the World

joesmith.

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

Part of the [Creative Writing Commons](#)

---

### Recommended Citation

., joesmith. "Versions to the World." *The Iowa Review* 28.1 (1998): 147-147. Web.  
Available at: <https://doi.org/10.17077/0021-065X.4971>

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](mailto:lib-ir@uiowa.edu).

*joesmith*

VERSIONS TO THE WORLD

I question the reach of your eyes in front  
Of the man who shaped no lean sliver of who  
You are across from me now looking past me  
In your wriggled chair and as for an answer  
You put the tumbler hard down to the table  
Almost slam it really slam it at the news  
Paper some high-pated president asking you  
In that way that faces arrested in mid-act  
Ask why intentions wander away long before  
Reaching an eventful end to their horizons  
On this washed rock of a planet flung out  
To spin dry some distance from the initial  
Something the universal shudder that single  
Odd nothing packed so hard in on itself it  
Just had to get away with us on it trying  
To pronounce the name of the wee breakaway  
Country where the man in the picture lives  
Beneath his small bone wall of dug-in skin  
And his up-creeping eyebrows smearing down  
In the slow wet plateau soaking in away to  
Damp but not gone and asking you me that is  
Not him to describe in detail maybe even in  
Words what we both have watched and to say  
Whether or not it can be said to finish it  
Self up for us in three dimensions more or  
Less in real time yet this evening to make  
The chosen movie we each already read about  
Before an arguable event hardens to matter  
And maps a way into the crooks of our eyes.