1999

Narcissus as Is

Elton Glaser

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

Part of the Creative Writing Commons

Recommended Citation

Available at: https://doi.org/10.17077/0021-065X.5169

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.
Narcissus As Is

Always myself, whatever waters I look into,
I keep my head
Above the flow, and never let the current
Carry me away.
However strong the stream, I want it still.

However strong the stream, I want it. Still,
I sometimes long
For pools so small no winds will sway them
On my face,
Tired of staring at the drift of things.

Tired of staring at the drift of things,
I could see
Beyond my eyes to all that springs below
And rises here,
A glass that goes down deep and bears me up.

A glass that goes down deep and bears me up—
Break it now,
This calm whose end is ice, and not the rush
That keeps me
Always myself, whatever waters I look into.