

2002

# To Paraphrase

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## Recommended Citation

Paul, Bradley. "To Paraphrase." *The Iowa Review* 32.1 (2002): 56-56. Web.  
Available at: <https://doi.org/10.17077/0021-065X.5507>

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BRADLEY PAUL

*To Paraphrase*

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I invoked one thing for questioning;  
all things were ripe;  
I remembered the taste of just one food;  
it was May when I ate it  
and I was sick on that day,  
yet all things were ripe  
and festered on the pavement,  
the mulberries and the musk-rose  
and the heavy other fruits.  
And the moss came up from the bricks  
and tasted each thing once  
and for a long time.  
And I knew about this  
and spoke not to the ear  
nor to the steaming grass,  
and did not look at the pear on its bough,  
and tasted no thing for any time,  
and felt no settlement of the heavy air,  
though it was the thing that I wanted.