

Harpur Palate: a Literary Journal

Volume 1 | Issue 2

Article 19

October 2022

Miniature

Christina Pugh

Follow this and additional works at: <https://orb.binghamton.edu/harpurpalate>

Recommended Citation

Pugh, Christina (2022) "Miniature," *Harpur Palate: a Literary Journal*: Vol. 1: Iss. 2, Article 19.
Available at: <https://orb.binghamton.edu/harpurpalate/vol1/iss2/19>

This Poetry is brought to you for free and open access by The Open Repository @ Binghamton (The ORB). It has been accepted for inclusion in Harpur Palate: a Literary Journal by an authorized editor of The Open Repository @ Binghamton (The ORB). For more information, please contact ORB@binghamton.edu.

Miniature
by Christina Pugh

It was only an everyday betrayal.

But today your faithlessness
lives as a natural law,
clear as a mist-dimmed
mountain disrobing:

the brisk *I forgot*;
the fierce *I lost*—
lies you no longer know
you're telling. And lies

suit you: the mountain
morphs to shoreline;
your eyes take on
a planetary sheen...

now a family of mollusks
scatters.

You're becoming
a seascape
I want to brush
in miniature, fever

in an inch
of India ink—
then press in a locket
for unsentimental ends.

Christina Pugh

But one sea truth
is only half a locket.
It needs the twin oblong
of my tidal acquiescence,

burbled back
to sand-combed
and silt-glazed you-

the breathless
facing page of it!-

as if you've granted me
a lifelong dream
to co-write fiction:

the *it's so nice*, the *of course not*,
the *you didn't need to*.