

# Harpur Palate: a Literary Journal

---

Volume 11 | Issue 2

Article 3

---

January 2012

## Letter to the Hailstones Striking on the Roof

Sandy Anderson

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

---

### Recommended Citation

Anderson, Sandy (2012) "Letter to the Hailstones Striking on the Roof," *Harpur Palate: a Literary Journal*. Vol. 11: Iss. 2, Article 3.

Available at: <https://orb.binghamton.edu/harpurpalate/vol11/iss2/3>

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](mailto:ORB@binghamton.edu).

Anderson: Letter to the Hailstones Striking on the Roof

# LETTER TO THE HAILSTONES STRIKING THE ROOF

**SANDY  
ANDERSON**

You think I am listening to the tympani  
of your fall, but I hear the whistle  
of the passing train  
and roll the silk scarf  
of its sound between my fingers  
like a rosary I don't own.  
You think I cover my head  
with my hands,  
but I sidestep the small explosions  
of you by seeing clearly the air  
between me and beyond,  
balancing on my own  
imaginary tightrope.  
When I pick you up  
and cup you in my hand,  
you are so fragile  
you cease to exist,  
roll through my fingers like water.