

1984

Kid With the Hair: circa 1970

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Recommended Citation

Wood, Laurie (1984) "Kid With the Hair: circa 1970," *Inscape*: Vol. 2 : No. 2 , Article 13.
Available at: <https://scholarsarchive.byu.edu/inscape/vol2/iss2/13>

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KID WITH THE HAIR: 1970

I didn't know him,
Didn't particularly want to:
I considered his existence with contempt.
Angered at the mention of his achievements
I tired of comparisons.
He said the right things,
Did the right things,
Knew the right people.
I didn't.
My hatred was labeled rivalry
Which made it worse—
That and being reminded I should love him
And follow his example.
But he was too short,
Walked duck-footed,
Was nearsighted.
And was my father's son.
I didn't know him and didn't intend to.