



10-2017

Ode to a Shoehorn

D. R. Garner

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarsarchive.byu.edu/inscape>

Recommended Citation

Garner, D. R. (2017) "Ode to a Shoehorn," *Inscape*: Vol. 37 : No. 1 , Article 17.

Available at: <https://scholarsarchive.byu.edu/inscape/vol37/iss1/17>

This Poetry is brought to you for free and open access by BYU ScholarsArchive. It has been accepted for inclusion in *Inscape* by an authorized editor of BYU ScholarsArchive. For more information, please contact scholarsarchive@byu.edu, ellen_amatangelo@byu.edu.

ODE TO THE SHOEHORN

by David Garner

Hesitant attendee;
sinner's ferry;
usher who escorts others to their seats
but is never seated for the show;
Olympic diver; claw
which descends in an arcade crane game
and emerges empty eternally;
doorman forced into early retirement;
lapdog; dutiful confessor;
Jacob called-Israel;
you who at the cave's mouth,
before the eyes of the trail-master,
rappel into the unknown,
and return as a mute,
you who began life as an elephant's tusk,
you who broke off from the antler of a battling stag;
you who were replaced by plastic or rebuked by impatience,
servant who is unseen except as summoned;
un-breaking barrier—we write you here.