



2020

The Man on the Train

Harriet Norcross

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



Part of the [Feminist, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Commons](#), and the [Poetry Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Norcross, Harriet (2020) "The Man on the Train," *AWE (A Woman's Experience)*: Vol. 7, Article 12.
Available at: <https://scholarsarchive.byu.edu/awe/vol7/iss1/12>

This Poem is brought to you for free and open access by the Journals at BYU ScholarsArchive. It has been accepted for inclusion in *AWE (A Woman's Experience)* by an authorized editor of BYU ScholarsArchive. For more information, please contact ellen_amatangelo@byu.edu.

HARRIET NORCROSS

The Man on the Train

The man on the train platform
asks me a question and I answer.
The man on the train platform
screams at me and I
don't answer him again,
but keep on walking.
He screams on as I walk away
and I want to run and
I'm afraid he is following.

The man on the platform
is now the man on the train
and he sits behind me and my throat closes
in sudden tangible fear
I've never known before.
For an hour, I sit on the edge of my seat
and the man on the train asks me questions
about what station is next,
what station this is,
but luckily not where I'm going.

My body is in tight panic
until finally,
the man on the train,
the man on the train platform,
the man from every street corner and passing car
who screams and yells,
tells me I'm pretty
and asks me personal questions on the bus,
walks down the stairs of the train
and leaves
and I finally breathe again.