



1999

Becoming

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I'm a sentimental fool.
(They say one should never drink
alone, but I
doubt if that applies to coffee.
Besides, if you were here
There would be no poem.
I would be telling you these things,
telling you that
sometimes I expect to find a kindred spirit
on the highway
because we look over
and discover that
from different cars we are
singing to the same song on the radio -

telling you that tonight
everything reminds me of home.)

Becoming

I always arrive
at places like this
to see
the endless parade
of souls
screaming to be regarded
(contempt or
admiration—much the same
to some).

If I am honest,
I say that I also come
to be seen,
to take my part:
(to look the same or
go against the grain—much the same
to some)
this masquerade
is more to feign than to become.