

Teaching and Learning: The **Journal of Natural Inquiry & Reflective Practice**

Volume 5 | Issue 2 Article 7

1-1991

For Harpo

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Recommended Citation

McCaughey, Kevin (1991) "For Harpo," Teaching and Learning: The Journal of Natural Inquiry & Reflective Practice: Vol. 5: Iss. 2, Article 7.

Available at: https://commons.und.edu/tl-nirp-journal/vol5/iss2/7

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FOR HARPO

As a kid I knew your two smiles:

the first, wild and ecstatic, when you honked your hand horn, swung a hatchet, offered a thigh to an outstretched hand;

the second, calm and eerily knowing, when you duped your harp with butterfly fingers into opening its song.

And I came alive one matinee, not knowing how.
You fooled my heart:
each chamber flattened,
unfolded, began to beat,
and flew away from the child.

Kevin McCaughey