

Spring 1976

For Nancy, a Beginning

Bob Behr

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarworks.umt.edu/cutbank>



Part of the [Creative Writing Commons](#)

Let us know how access to this document benefits you.

Recommended Citation

Behr, Bob (1976) "For Nancy, a Beginning," *CutBank*: Vol. 1 : Iss. 6 , Article 17.

Available at: <https://scholarworks.umt.edu/cutbank/vol1/iss6/17>

This Poetry is brought to you for free and open access by ScholarWorks at University of Montana. It has been accepted for inclusion in CutBank by an authorized editor of ScholarWorks at University of Montana. For more information, please contact scholarworks@mso.umt.edu.

FOR NANCY, A BEGINNING

I come from men who must drive,
can't let go their grasp
of the wheel: men with their heads
hidden in cameras.
You ask me to look back and forget
a flooded field one January, my high school
shut down, when I skated between brown trees
and left my home without a word.
I'm giving up the nervous nights. I prayed
only for sleep.

These hands
are my grandfather's. The last
words of a tree drift to my lap.
I could live to watch the ripe leaves
dangle in the window-frame, to find
my place in the five-storied building.
I want you badly these days.
Even as you reach toward the half-eaten pear
I feel change.