

Fall 1976

## On the Mountain

Jim Barnes

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

Barnes, Jim (1976) "On the Mountain," *CutBank*: Vol. 1 : Iss. 7 , Article 19.

Available at: <https://scholarworks.umt.edu/cutbank/vol1/iss7/19>

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](mailto:scholarworks@mso.umt.edu).

## ON THE MOUNTAIN

The hide is nailed  
upon the door.

The old bitch strains,  
licks a sore forepaw.

The pup trails asleep,  
hounds a first  
wild hunt into  
his hell of dream.

A low wind  
lifts the dust  
up off the floor,  
inches it  
toward the fire.  
The pup runs  
a spastic course,  
freezes and bays  
himself half awake.

The wind dies down;  
the fire sparks out.

The old bitch groans  
herself to sleep.

The hide is still nailed  
upon the door.