

Masthead Logo

The Iowa Review

Volume 5
Issue 2 *Spring*

Article 23

1974

The Day He Became Blind

Gregory Simon

Follow this and additional works at: <https://ir.uiowa.edu/iowareview>

Part of the [Creative Writing Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Simon, Gregory. "The Day He Became Blind." *The Iowa Review* 5.2 (1974): 25-25. Web.
Available at: <https://doi.org/10.17077/0021-065X.1726>

This Contents is brought to you for free and open access by Iowa Research Online. It has been accepted for inclusion in The Iowa Review by an authorized administrator of Iowa Research Online. For more information, please contact lib-ir@uiowa.edu.

THE DAY HE BECAME BLIND

The lake is an invention of the brilliant and blind captain who never got used to the wind. He had a daughter who was too invisible and intransigent to be anything but a lake the boys who knew her came to look in. There was an unplanned tree, and her father felt its light on his face, a transparent fan that turned his skin into a mirror; appearing too briefly for him to see what was there. Held just a moment longer, it was as if it were a photograph being taken relentlessly by a man who stood in front of us no matter which way we turned, and who wanted us to hold the daughter closer, to come down from beneath the shade of the tree, and to stand next to the sound of the water pulling the rocks and grass under. This is the way he became blind: One day their ship was struck by a hurricane. The daughter threw up both her arms and evenly let go of her end of the rescue line.