

BRIAN SNEEDEN

The Road

—*after Cavafy*

The latest on the road from nowhere is your going
and coming out the end of it, somewhere near Ithaka.

Cavafy said, do not seek riches in Ithaka, for once
you get there, Ithaka will only be Ithaka, and you
will be the man who went on the road to Ithaka,
who survived his own desire for Ithaka and found himself
at the other end of desire, still alive, somehow,
and capable of making the little fog breaths.

On the road, I wanted Ithaka and its Cyclops. I wanted,
somehow, to be defeated by the road. Instead I am the road
defeating the Cyclops and Ithaka, defeating most noble
desire itself. Alone with this wanting nothing but the road.