

# The Pilgrim Prince

by [Evelyn Hooven](#) (April 2021)



Alex, Alex Katz, 1970

You, Psychiatrist,  
Your skis  
And tennis courts  
Our nightmares  
And stammers—  
Our wanting to choose  
Waiting in secret  
To be chosen:  
This fragile animal  
Ghostly or real  
Was never the Princess . . .

You with your suntanned face  
Exemplary fitness  
Voice trained by tape  
Refined by one-way mirrors  
Expect us to call you Prince  
Precursor of cure.  
But the one whose home  
Is thought or dream  
Or quest—the Pilgrim Prince  
Himself—never was you.

[Table of Contents](#)

---

Evelyn Hooven graduated from Mount Holyoke College and received her M.A. from Yale University, where she also studied

at The Yale School of Drama. A member of the Dramatists' Guild, she has had presentations of her verse dramas at several theatrical venues, including *The Maxwell Anderson Playwrights Series* in Greenwich, CT (after a state-wide competition) and *The Poet's Theatre* in Cambridge, MA (result of a national competition). Her poems and translations from the French and Spanish have appeared in *Parnassus: Poetry in Review*, *ART TIMES*, *Chelsea*, *The Literary Review*, *THE SHOp: A Magazine of Poetry* (in Ireland), *The Tribeca Poetry Review*, *Vallum* (in Montreal), and other journals, and her literary criticism in Oxford University's *Essays in Criticism*.

Follow NER on Twitter [@NERIconoclast](https://twitter.com/NERIconoclast)