Viewing the Back of My Head

Matthew Hurley

*Iowa State University

Copyright ©2010 by the authors. Sketch is produced by The Berkeley Electronic Press (bepress). http://lib.dr.iastate.edu/sketch
Viewing the Back of My Head
Matthew Hurley

If ever I were to fall into a black hole, several questions from my astronomy lectures would come to mind:
Have I passed the ergosphere?
How long until I cross the event horizon?
I can see the stars above me contracting to form a narrow circle in space.
So I must be within the photon sphere, which isn’t so bad, I think, because now I can rest easy on that term paper.

Soon I will only see the back of my head in all directions.
How comforting to think that back at home, my lover could peer through a telescope and watch millions of light years away the image of my body, forever stretched and disfigured. A timeless memento.