The Pledge

Ted Doty*

*Iowa State College

Copyright ©1955 by the authors. Sketch is produced by The Berkeley Electronic Press (bepress).
http://lib.dr.iastate.edu/sketch
The Pledge

Ted Doty

Abstract

All right, Come in. But can’t you see I . . . No, you can not see That there is anything But here and now...
The Pledge

All right,
Come in.
But can't you see I . . .

No, you can not see
That there is anything
But here and now.

Here where pledges jump and run to get the phone.
Where actives listen close and count the rings,
But can not move until the pledge is near.

Now jump,
Now chew,
Now ride, belittle, ridicule.

Be sharp, you pledge,
Anticipate that ring.
Anticipate what ring?

That ring of active men.
Those perpetual wheels
That roll out individuality
Into the ruts of conformity.

I . . .
I'm trying to conform
To your high standard.

— Ted Doty, Ag. So.