

Deury Tavarez

Professor Lugo

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*"she's the one I carried my bones to
and built a house that was just a cot
and built a life that was over an hour
and built a castle where no one lives"*

—Anne Sexton, *The Complete Poem*, *"The Interrogation of the Man of Many Hearts"*

In this passage, Sexton links the imagery of building to both intimacy and emptiness. When Sexton states, "I carried my bones to you," she describes bringing something essential, fragile, and raw to the other person. The constructions become larger, from a cot to a short life, and finally to a castle, but they are still just constructions. What starts as a home becomes just a house, and the castle turns into an empty shell "where no one lives." Sexton turns love into an architectural structure that can hold no life, one of her favorite motifs of broken intimacy and isolation. I found it striking because it conveys how a relationship can simultaneously feel monumental and utterly empty, how something that took so much effort was conclusively for nothing.