

My Daughter Meets a Dictionary

This old big book,
my daughter hoists the dictionary
my mother used at Cornell and
that I use now: always use a
dictionary older than you are so that
your language will be your mother.
Look up mother and note the pen
and ink drawing of a motorcycle
on the facing page (551, *Webster's
New Collegiate Dictionary, 6th Ed.*
1953). The likelihood my daughter will
wield this dictionary at college in 2018
is probably the same as my fine tuning a Harely
this weekend, but maybe not...
the young reader may seek the book's advice
with the same begrudged curiosity that once
saw desk light in Ithaca.