

WHY DOES THE DOG HOWL ON THE MIDNIGHT HILL?

By SANORA BABB

Why does the dog howl on the midnight hill,
The architecture of his plaint
Unguarded like a ruin?
What woke him out of sleep
To this gigantic moon?
The monstrous void of thought?
A subtle recognition of his doom?
Has Diane seen him slumbering on the grass
And kissed him as she kissed Endymion,
To leave him haunted by one touch of love?
Or did he trail the ghostly stag of time three thousand years
To find that he was Sirius at Orion's heel,
Set in the sky to ornament a huntress' grief?
Why does the dog
With naked solitude engrave the night?
Why does the dog howl on the midnight hill?

ALLEGRO CON FUOCO

By SANORA BABB

I ride a runaway horse—
Hooves, pulse of wakened stones,
Mane combed by wind,
Ears back, eyes fire,
Heart wild,
And thighs all quiver,
Tail streaking air
Like a broken star.

We flash on a plain of dark:
One lightning in one summer storm,
In atomed days
Of dreamless dust
To store this gloried flight.