

# The Angle

---

Volume 1961 | Issue 1

Article 3

---

1961

## The Starry Night

Gerald Ivan Locklin  
*St. John Fisher University*

Follow this and additional works at: <https://fisherpub.sjf.edu/angle>



Part of the [Creative Writing Commons](#)

---

### Recommended Citation

Locklin, Gerald Ivan (1961) "The Starry Night," *The Angle*: Vol. 1961: Iss. 1, Article 3.  
Available at: <https://fisherpub.sjf.edu/angle/vol1961/iss1/3>

This document is posted at <https://fisherpub.sjf.edu/angle/vol1961/iss1/3> and is brought to you for free and open access by Fisher Digital Publications at . For more information, please contact [fisherpub@sjf.edu](mailto:fisherpub@sjf.edu).

---

## The Starry Night

### Cover Page Footnote

Appeared in the issue: Volume 6, Spring, 1961.

Locklin: The Starry Night



## THE STARRY NIGHT

An itching, sore, and sleepless eye  
sees flesh upon the night,  
spun and spiral flesh,  
the petrified gyrations of an ingrown tear  
which whispers through chapped lips  
the gall and heartburn of depression in chains.  
Stigmata of the night and of the  
    male and female heart,  
    the dowery of phantasm,  
    reflect upon  
    the eddy and descent  
of a forgotten and discredited whiteness;  
be moved by  
the snake and winny of the muddy cypresses  
    beneath the stabbed and tarantella moon  
    above the shrunken steeple of votaries and shrouds —  
    the pointing steeple  
    which would pierce the snow, the stars, the eyes  
    and mix the molten seed of brilliance with the dust.  
Such an exorcism of fatigue  
appears on canvas or papyrus  
    only when the cypresses alone are unblind to the moon  
    when the moon is tender to a writhing dryad  
    or when the lonely, blinking man  
    of brush or pen  
    or zodiac skull laid open on the sky  
    pans gold dust from a tear  
    to squander on a wisp of dream.

Gerald Ivan Locklin