

## Empty Me

Anne Clark

Now that all is stilled and silenced  
that the rushing roaring daylight  
has lost itself - its hysteria  
in the all-amassing night -  
I too gently lose myself  
beyond the open window  
where a journey unfolds  
into the city of rain

Music's never made such living sounds  
absorbing the night's rythem  
the walls resonate with a thousand tiny drums  
soft shards of liquid glass dance on metal pipes  
mixing dust and dirt and grime  
into a shining lubricating all-consuming oil  
some drop away barely making contact  
each bursting on impact  
into a fountain in the air  
dribbling off the lips of window ledges  
splashing silver splinters in the blackness  
scales of lifted paint turn to almost living flesh  
smearing - it slides and streams into a opening  
in the underworld below  
revealing secret routes  
where the trappes earth breathes  
yellow streetlight breaks its beam across the water  
electric currents hum, steaming in the dampness  
cascades carry me away  
wash away the tiredness  
cool the fetid air  
I turn to where you're sleeping  
gently swimming through these hours  
on to morning - unaware  
and even though i know  
all of this rise and disappear  
with the dawn into the sky  
tonight everything glistens -  
like a jewel under the rain  
tonight the city is silenced -  
lost under the storm.