

The Messenger

Volume 2012

Issue 1 *The Messenger*, Spring 2012

Article 26

Spring 2012

lily

Clayton Helms

Follow this and additional works at: <http://scholarship.richmond.edu/messenger>



Part of the [Poetry Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Helms, Clayton (2012) "lily," *The Messenger*: Vol. 2012: Iss. 1, Article 26.

Available at: <http://scholarship.richmond.edu/messenger/vol2012/iss1/26>

This Poetry is brought to you for free and open access by UR Scholarship Repository. It has been accepted for inclusion in *The Messenger* by an authorized administrator of UR Scholarship Repository. For more information, please contact scholarshiprepository@richmond.edu.

I walked along the liquids edge
And saw fire laden lily
Too far ahead to know what's been
They turned and burned and fell

As heat vanquished, fleeting well
We knew not what we'd seen
Their chirps unflowing, silence seeps
Like water over stone

And searched beside and yet throughout
The tides and ripples merge
They shake their legs along the flies
And swallow them in turn

That neverending burns and melts
Into purity, reality, perceptually
Blending with the colors
Mirror image true

Through red and black and blue
We held their tails inside our hands
With laughter and touch
And felt numb while it ran

Those long thirdly nights
While I walked in sunless light
With flames lit at the end
Forcing me to contemplate

The feet that surely walk
The lips that surely talk
While descending into lights of three
We sought to only see

lily

By Clayton Helms