

Lights and Shadows

Volume 20 *Lights and Shadows* Volume 20

Article 7

1976

Astral Internalization

Tim Powell

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Recommended Citation

Powell, T. (1976). Astral Internalization. *Lights and Shadows*, 20 (1). Retrieved from <https://ir.una.edu/lightsandshadows/vol20/iss1/7>

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SECOND PLACE: POETRY

Tim Powell

Astral Internalization

Variations upon variations,
I pause -
The voice that once filled my ears,
becomes a now senseless hum.
I stand upon the stasis of time,
and once again I trip.
I am engulfed in a reality of my own creation,
the wall,
the ceiling,
the music,
swirl into a vortex of color
and meaningless pattern.
Cast adrift upon the tide of question,
I search for comfort,
a meaning to my humdrum,
a return of the love I long to share. . .

Lifted, I perceive -
though not by sight,
or hearing,
or any physical sense,
the overwhelming plight of my own inadequacy;
for I am not what I wish to be.
At so many times,
too many times,
my soul is seized with involuntary convulsions
of uselessness.
Impinged upon my awareness
is a lack of symmetrical balance.
My quintessential being lacks solidity,
and my purpose lies hidden from me.
Often I reach,
and stretch my grasp,
straining every wisp of consciousness,
only to find my answer snatched from me -