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From the Selected Works of Juan Javier del Granado

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The anxieties of Anglo American gothic

Juan Javier del Granado



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The anxieties of Anglo-American gothic

The endless night drags on as if it were
a leathery old bat —its wings outstretched
and nailed against the looming wall—astir
with distant ripples in a wave-swept sketch.
And in its mouth by nerveless will conferred,
the night consumes discarded cigarettes
which smolder clouds of smoke and shapeless blur
and crinkle eerily its nose leaf etch.
The night would not so pitifully wail
if it could prey upon soft things that crawl
and snatch at moths and whirl before the dawn.
Yet with its elbows braced the night must calm,
and warily its big ears fold and fall
grief-stricken, whitened in a deathly pale.

Juan Javier del Granado

Dedicated the memory of my only sister, María Teresa, who died tragically and suddenly from meningitis during my first year of law school.