

April 2016

The Tide is Coming In

Rachel Burns

Follow this and additional works at: <http://digitalcommons.winthrop.edu/anthology>



Part of the [Poetry Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Burns, Rachel (2016) "The Tide is Coming In," *The Anthology*: Vol. 2016, Article 8.

Available at: <http://digitalcommons.winthrop.edu/anthology/vol2016/iss1/8>

This Poetry is brought to you for free and open access by Digital Commons @ Winthrop University. It has been accepted for inclusion in The Anthology by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons @ Winthrop University. For more information, please contact bramed@winthrop.edu.

The Tide is Coming In *Rachel Burns*

City lights have dimmed the night—I think that it's a sin,
but still we've come to gaze at stars.
The tide is coming in.

Your eyes are closed in meditation or maybe in a dream,
while I watch the frozen astral dance that spans the ballroom sea.
City lights have dimmed the night—I think that it's a sin.

Orion stands, arrested, and Cepheus waits, enthroned;
the animals halt their gamboling.
The tide is coming in.

I pretend the waves are whispering what's playing in my head:
I love you, I love you, I love you—
City lights have dimmed the night—I think that it's a sin.

They watch and wait, those paling forms above, so
to bring you back to me, I say,
“The tide is coming in.”

Out of the darkness, your touch meets my hand,
a St. Elmo's brilliance that makes the stars look dead.
City lights have dimmed the night—I think that it's a sin.
The tide is coming in.