

# Gandy Dancer Archives

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Volume 7  
Issue 2 *Best of Gandy Dancer 2012-2018*

Article 5

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5-1-2019

## Alone

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### Recommended Citation

Bishop, Amy Elizabeth (2019) "Alone," *Gandy Dancer Archives*: Vol. 7: Iss. 2, Article 5.  
Available at: <https://knight scholar.geneseo.edu/gandy-dancer/vol7/iss2/5>

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TRANSLATION BY AMY ELIZABETH BISHOP

# Alone

The night has moved into my room—  
all silences before its stone face.  
A silver bow moves along on muffled, dark feet,  
a moon, a star—something I do not know.

My hand is chilled, as if a small bird hovers—  
always with me. Oh, carry me, the one  
who scarcely lives any more, into the ice,  
into the fire, even further into the sea.

There: I lie under a dream and breathe only dreams  
from a home distant and bright as snow—  
I eat my bread with cold fingers: all the quarters  
of love are burnt up and only cause me pain.