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## Once Within A Thistle Love

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### **Cover Page Footnote**

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## ONCE WITHIN A THISTLE LOVE

GERALD IVAN LOCKLIN

She stirs across the motion of my mind  
Through shadow loves, a spark of prosody  
Through love love loves, a thistle briar thorn  
Scratching bloody the poetry wind  
From my lips, the tasteless threnody.

O yes succinct within my Eden-borne  
Soul I jealousy a goldenrodding goddess  
But now again unto my catnip sense  
O sinews taut and sore elated madness  
Wafts the disial draught. So, shorne

Of grace, I christen servitude and in  
Her *apyretic* grotto, I immolate my verse  
And when I dare converse  
With her, as though from Venus' frozen warmth  
I heard the odes of Sappho ring, I sing in silence.

And do I squawk with febrile rasping throat?  
If I possess the bluebird love  
Within my blackbird loins  
Will I e'er sound a perfect note  
While reaching to stroke the turtledove?

Especially now: spirits travelling incognito,  
Personality, a generation's labor, discounted  
Continually by a word: phoney or eccentric or beat,  
We're always another's mass. The neon serenade  
And the mechanical larynx all agree:  
Hallucinated emotion is the only good.

CASSANDRA  
J. W. MILLER

Reason and the tempered intensity,  
Vision clarified by hindsight passion,  
Are mocked by the cerebral proletariat who,  
Educated, is marshalling beatitudes of sensuality,  
And regimented depression, and subliminal tingods,  
And moneytheistic myths, for peers.  
Salute the new myth of irrationality,  
A graphic system of curves and hollows  
Like a ravenous boneless fleshskull.