1979

To Southern California

Nancy Cuminale
St. John Fisher College

Recommended Citation
Available at: http://fisherpub.sjfc.edu/angle/vol1979/iss1/5

This document is posted at http://fisherpub.sjfc.edu/angle/vol1979/iss1/5 and is brought to you for free and open access by Fisher Digital Publications at St. John Fisher College. For more information, please contact fisherpub@sjfc.edu.
To Southern California

Cover Page Footnote
Appeared in the issue: Spring 1979.

This poem is available in The Angle: http://fisherpub.sjfc.edu/angle/vol1979/iss1/5
To Southern California

Los Angeles has been called
The ass-hole of the nation,
City of fools
Hollywood slime
Strip joints
Punk rock
Lady waiting
On every corner.
Hollywood high,
Reds, whites, dust, cocaine.

Southern California
Isn’t paradise you know . . .
Beverly Hills
Is for rich alcoholic copycats
Dusted heroes
And coked-out rockers.
Hollywood harbors the fag boys,
Did you see them?
Making love on the corner?
Broken has-beens
And never has-beens
Hide their dusty smiles
Behind dark glasses.

— Nancy Cuminale

Untitled

I am incapable of loving
Any intellectual or macho male
Heroes married to Fame
Or athletes riding on egos.
Instead I create
For five days now
Long blond locks uncombed
Vicious blue eyes
Notorious for rape
And other contemptible acts . . .
I starve (and itch) dry-mouthed
For brutal hands of unvaccinated
Strangers
To paint my body with true passion
And then fade away still unknown
Leaving me (a stranger)
Gasping for breath in the morning
At the savage perfection
Of the man I still don’t know.

— Nancy Cuminale