

1986

An Afternoon...

K. H.

St. John Fisher College

[How has open access to Fisher Digital Publications benefited you?](#)

Follow this and additional works at: <http://fisherpub.sjfc.edu/angle>

 Part of the [Creative Writing Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

H., K. (1986) "An Afternoon..." *The Angle*: Vol. 1986: Iss. 1, Article 5.

Available at: <http://fisherpub.sjfc.edu/angle/vol1986/iss1/5>

This document is posted at <http://fisherpub.sjfc.edu/angle/vol1986/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.

An Afternoon...

Cover Page Footnote

Appeared in the issue: 1986.

An afternoon
indoors

when a mildew of dumbness
coats the tongue

when now is the mute flash
and dozing drone of television

or the traffic outdoors
or an ashtry of forgetfulness.

An afternoon for the silent death
of a household pet.

The poet could seize a filmy shred
of this afternoon

could roll it on her tongue and taste
expectancy in its bland tragedy.

The poet could see expectancy rise
outside the living room window.

The pale and tremulous face
it watches. Then,

shrugging, shrinking, it apologizes
like an ex-lover and

fades. Traffic slow and
unrelenting, the poet's arm

hangs white from the sofa,
she is sleeping.

On the television, lovers' faces
do not fade, do not watch.

The hamster is in the hamper.
Sleep, and expect to forget.

K.H.