MIDNIGHT

by Archibald Lampman (1861-1899)

From where I sit, I see the stars, And down the chilly floor The moon between the frozen bars Is glimmering dim and hoar. Without in many a peaked mound The glinting snowdrifts lie; There is no voice or living sound; The embers slowly die. Yet some wild thing is in mine ear; I hold my breath and hark; Out of the depth I seem to hear A crying in the dark; No sound of man or wife or child, No sound of beast that groans, Or of the wind that whistles wild, Or of the tree that moans: I know not what it is I hear; I bend my head and hark: I cannot drive it from mine ear, That crying in the dark.

Original Text:

The Poems of Archibald Lampman, ed. Duncan Campbell Scott (Toronto: George N. Morang, 1900)