

Vincent van Gogh, Avenue at Arles with Houses, 1888



Stars Like Eyes

over each end of my oval bathtub
two views of Arles, one in blistering sunlight
the other in cool waves of starlight
memories of a June week hotter than August

heat of the Provençal summer broiled
our fragile brains, evenings not cool enough
for recovery overnight, even when clothed in
damp facecloths and wet socks

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image info

Vincent van Gogh, Café Terrace at Night, 1888



waking moments in the wee hours
compelled to seek night air
where traces of our galaxy
stream curling above the dark blue hills

it struck me then, how the stars, like eyes
traced my progress in that sultry night
their yellow orbs study me still
from the wall above my bath

—Adrienne Stevenson