



From Magic Eye Tubes

Vincent Carotenuto

The Fifth

Mid-century
mid-summer
mid-day
mid-America
Like a lot of guys today
we aren't wearing shirts.
The sidewalks are hot.
Mid-city
a shadowy easement
a hot-rod *hrunhs* by.
The sun is still in a still sky.
A wooden radio
in a window
up above us over there
is wheezing a glorious plaint
"l-aarghh-issimo"
some slow
cerebral-emotive American Schuman
to our own erring sonorous movement
the music on the radio sounding documentary
of air, of us, of dust, of the time
in very American sweetly new dissenting consonances
consenting dissonances—
Uh *hrunh, hrunh, oh HRUNNNH!*

The work of Vincent Carotenuto has been accepted into the poetry archives of Cleveland State University and into the archives of the Western Reserve Historical Society in Cleveland, Ohio. He lives in Cleveland.