

Masthead Logo

**The Iowa Review**

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Volume 24

Issue 1 *Winter*

Article 34

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1994

# Phase

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## Recommended Citation

Ungaretti, Giuseppe and John Rodenbeck. "Phase." *The Iowa Review* 24.1 (1994): 163-163. Web.

Available at: <https://doi.org/10.17077/0021-065X.4731>

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FROM GIUSEPPE UNGARETTI

PHASE

*Mariano, 25 June 1916*

On the road on the road  
I've rediscovered  
the well of love

In its thousand-and-  
one-nights eye  
I've rested

Upon the abandoned gardens  
she alit  
like a dove

Within the air  
of a noontide  
that was one long swoon  
I picked her  
oranges and jasmine

FIRST LOVE

It was a city night,  
Rosy and yellowish the wan light  
Out of which, as if from a shift in the darkness,  
There seemed to have arisen form.

It was a sultry night  
When I saw teeth I had not foreseen, violet  
In a juncture of limbs that pretended peace.