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## *City Garden / Night*

Mary Ann Toman

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# Mythcon 51: The Mythic, the Fantastic, and the Alien

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## Additional Keywords

Poetry; Mary Ann Toman

# City Garden

Bordered by concrete,  
the midsummer garden  
has lost its promise.  
The hardiest plants  
are brittle and browning.  
Mice have dug holes in the dry soil,  
their burrows hidden  
under bits of foil and paper.  
The flies outnumber the bees.  
Of all the flowers,  
only the four-o'clocks thrive,  
but their small yellow blossoms  
will not open till evening.

— Mary Ann Toman

# Night

The fan is useless.  
The laundry strung  
across our room  
barely sways.  
You watch late night  
public television.  
Leonard Bernstein discusses  
Arnold Schoenberg.  
I nurse the baby.  
Below our window  
Angel's mom smokes  
a thin fragrant cigar.

— Mary Ann Toman