

Publications

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Spring 2019

## Depression

Chad Rohrbacher

Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, rohrbacc@erau.edu

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### Scholarly Commons Citation

Rohrbacher, C. (2019). Depression. *Florida English Journal*, (). Retrieved from <https://commons.erau.edu/publication/1366>

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Depression

I: Ugo Cerletti and Lucio Bini

Strolled the cobble streets,  
past villas and market stink  
dreaming in electric eels  
and wet sponges.  
Naked temples.

Leather straps.  
For them it was a kinetic injustice, blue light  
streaking through the epidermis  
past the skull-bone,  
into the imagination where cells alight, crazy  
jump and tumble.  
Sometimes the marrow broke  
sometimes singed hair  
filled nostrils. Sometimes  
they fancied  
the soft gray matter as nothing  
more than a wish  
charging the dark deep  
forcing the retreat  
to lost memory.

II: Threshold

Years later, after the simple fasting, after the barbiturates  
And the switch, the 60 second flash and chest heave,  
After the fist clench and body let loose of itself, after

The toes uncurled and blood returned to fingers,  
She touched his head

Delicately,  
A simple song, a brushing of skin  
On taught skin, her hand hovering there, as if afraid  
Of an aftershock, a body's regurgitation of power.  
She whispered hush in his ear.  
She hoped that new neurons would rise  
From ashes, wrench control of emotions  
Return the man back to the man.