

1970

# Honesty

Steven Orlen

Follow this and additional works at: <https://ir.uiowa.edu/iowareview>

Part of the [Creative Writing Commons](#)

---

## Recommended Citation

Orlen, Steven. "Honesty." *The Iowa Review* 1.4 (1970): 19-19. Web.  
Available at: <https://doi.org/10.17077/0021-065X.1120>

This Contents is brought to you for free and open access by Iowa Research Online. It has been accepted for inclusion in The Iowa Review by an authorized administrator of Iowa Research Online. For more information, please contact [lib-ir@uiowa.edu](mailto:lib-ir@uiowa.edu).

## H O N E S T Y

All night we lock our doors, the hard sad mouths.  
We stalk naked, bedroom  
to bathroom

shining like scissors, like silver, like crosses.

When we lie down  
tell me what slips between us: self-conscious.  
We sleep in a coffin, in satin; a wedding.  
Waiting for morning. Look  
how we look away,

revelations that can almost touch.  
Are we the honesties; we are: stars  
that blink

in our nightclothes, like slow-turning planets  
filled with other lives.