

# Calabash

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*City Blackout*

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*Calabash: A Journal of Caribbean Arts and Letters* is an international literary journal dedicated to publishing works encompassing, but not limited to, the Anglophone, Francophone, Hispanophone and Dutch-speaking Caribbean. The Journal is especially dedicated to presenting the arts and letters of those communities that have long been under-represented within the creative discourse of the region, among them: Aruba and the Netherlands Antilles, Maroon societies, and the Asian and Amerindian societies of the region. Calabash has a strong visual arts component.

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*Calabash: A Journal of Caribbean Arts and Letters*

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*Peggy Garrison*

## CITY BLACKOUT

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No streetlights,  
a few candle-muted windows,  
without electronic amusements  
night comes closer  
in New York;  
stores shutter early;  
neighbors cluster on stoops;  
sudden firecracker bursts  
and little-boy cheers  
dare the dark;

the air's a thick tent-  
camels munching desert shrubs,  
Bedouins around the fire.

I look out;  
tell time with the stars.