

Silent night

by [Muriel Nelson](#) in the [December 15, 2021](#) issue

With wise men, a mom, countless sheep,  
and infinite nights of stars,  
songs like bushtits swirl off in old leaves,  
a twittering lost afar.

What more can anyone know  
scanning our muted sky  
than how wanting we are, and how a strange glow  
could quicken our breaths passing by?