

## Blue Study

“Lonely” is a lonely word:  
it stands apart; no other  
words can comfort it, nor  
will. And a woman is  
the gone splendor of gold

mums on a coffee table;  
another woman is a phone  
that rings and rings (or  
not) in a distant town;  
another is a letter, voice

on tape; another isn't.  
For the meanwhile, mean-  
while, wonderment: brown  
beauty of manhattans, say,  
and ice cubes in a glass.

JOHN DITSKY