

## THE ACTRESSES OF NIGHT

black night the plank I am  
forced to walk night  
the girl undressing I see by chance  
by the window I am falling  
and it is like being played with  
by older girls it is  
the black stockings  
the young widow takes off  
in front of you night  
takes off her panties in the dark  
and they smell like old coves

1961

## THE PARAMOUR

don't tell me I know  
the bedrooms like one  
hundred rivers  
that disappear underground  
I know the solitary couches  
with the inscriptions of mistresses  
written in blood

*Frank Stanford* 1961