Recalling Yeats, Learning of the Mass Shootings in El Paso and Dayton, Rocking Our Son Back to Sleep

by Josh Dugat in the September 2022 issue

The lips of the angels
Blister and flame.
Their mouth pieces painful
From trumpeting name

After name. They lay down Their horns and the dead Still arrive, dying to drown Out the hush in their heads

That would crush paradise. You have their hymns In your skin memorized, Spilling your lungs and your limbs.

You don't sleep. You don't sleep. Your delicate chest How it wails and it weeps That overcome angels might rest.