

NOAH ZACHARIN

LATE NIGHT TV

the font was small
that out of the corner of my eye
I read "book of burials."
fine title for a book, I thought,
one that one could go to
time, time again.
I wondered: should the plates focus
on the mourned or the mourning;
on the body, box, or pit?
details! this will make a fine coffee table book!
minimal text,
wry or wise last words,
spectrograms of a mother's keening.
a few brown and grey lines
from the realist poet,
other more scarlet, other more blue
from the romantic
lost in loss.
the makings of something fine!
likely the cover should be
oak laminate, but let the publishers
concern themselves with details. me?
I'm the concepts guy, the
big-picture guy,

lightbulb-above-the-head guy
seeing working machines
in scrap metal and refracted light.
still, at the meeting, I'll suggest
having the volume bound
with sinew,
and providing
with each numbered copy
(unlimited edition)
a phial of tears:
we'll want
to offer
something
unique.
like
as seen
on TV.