

# *Sketch*

---

*Volume 25, Number 1*

1958

*Article 4*

---

## We Can Only Try

M. J. Miles\*

\*Iowa State College

Copyright ©1958 by the authors. *Sketch* is produced by The Berkeley Electronic Press (bepress).  
<http://lib.dr.iastate.edu/sketch>

# We Can Only Try

M. J. Miles

## **Abstract**

I think I'll go insane tonight. You come too. We';; find a place of prism light And real dew...

# We Can Only Try

I THINK I'll go insane tonight.

You come too.  
We'll find a place of prism light  
And real dew.  
We will swing on nothings nowhere  
Beside wrong  
And later on we'll go where  
Right is long.  
We won't remember how it was  
Or where it was  
Or what it does.  
We'll sing and run  
And live on sun;  
Be like thunder underdone.  
We'll cease to crease our trousers —  
We'll never be on time.  
We'll spit on college rousers  
We'll suck on sour lime.  
We'll bite our paragraphs in two  
And chew them into bits.  
We'll wield our power of wits  
With fits  
Of un-hooked words  
Flung at birds  
Passing in review.

We'll be where they can't reach us  
Though they touch us everyday.  
And when they try to teach us

They will curtain us away.  
 We won't be where we can be  
 We can't be where we are.  
 Under water giggling  
 At the wriggling  
 Glare we are.  
 Sliding under mountains  
 Gliding over fountains  
 Skirting  
 Flirting  
 Shaking  
 Quaking.

Screaming!

For even this dream will fail . . .  
 Reality will stalk us quietly  
 Til we are trapped  
 Into dying  
 For our lives.

— *M. J. Miles, Sc. '58*

---

## Self-Denial

He wanted to be an artist,  
     but thought he hadn't art enough.  
 He wanted to be a man of Science,  
     but thought he wasn't smart enough.  
 He wanted to be a generous friend,  
     but thought he hadn't gold enough.  
 He wanted to be a soldier,  
     but thought he wasn't bold enough.  
 He wanted to be a man of God,  
     but thought he wasn't high enough.  
 He wanted to be so many things,  
     but didn't want to try enough.

— *Tom Irish, Sc. '58*