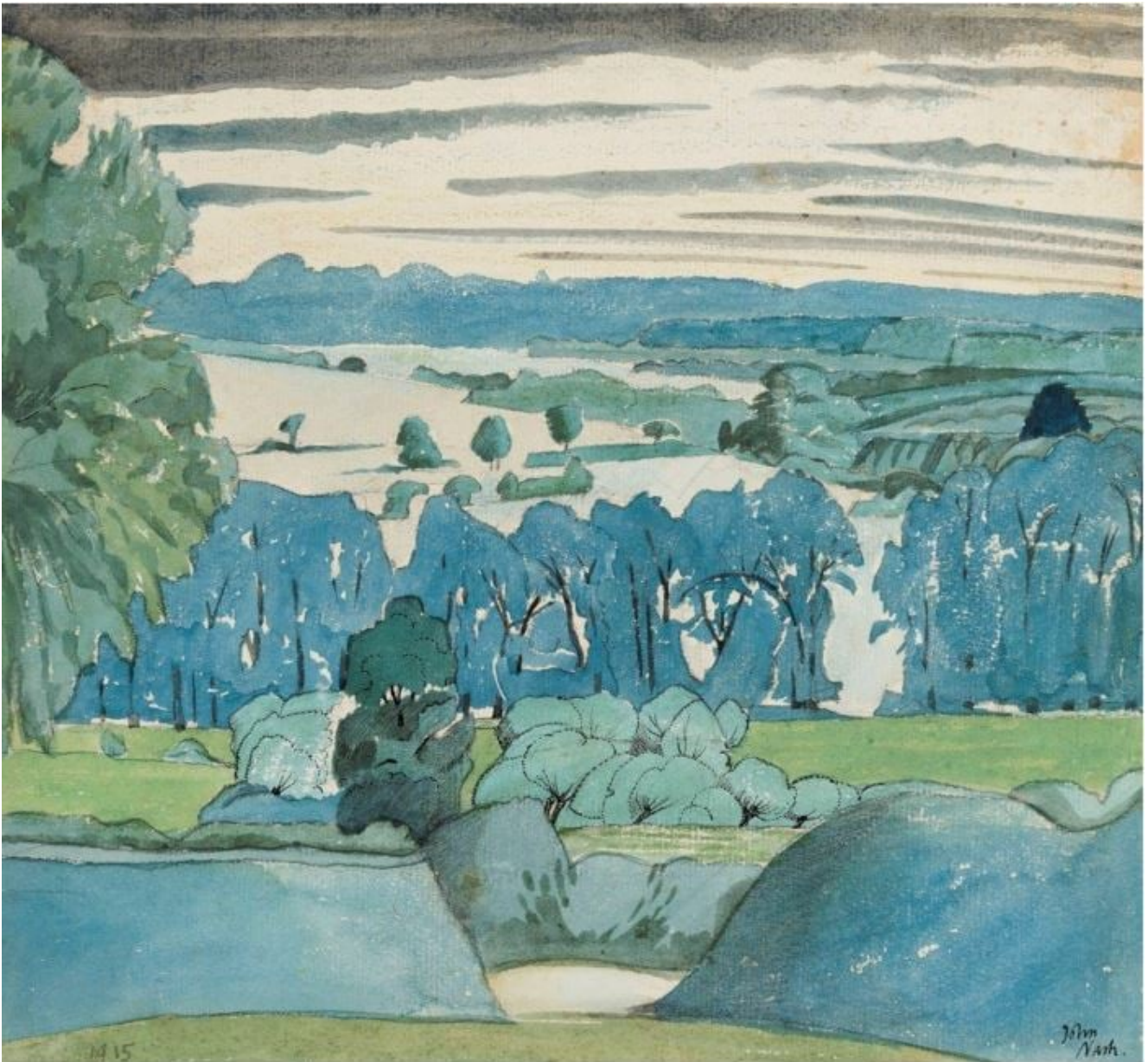


# The Hidden Flower of Troyes

by [Walt Garlington](#) (October 2022)



*Misbourne Valley*, John Nash, 1915

The monuments of Modernity  
Fiendishly devour the heavens and the earth,  
The giant, hulking masses of steel  
And concrete crushing the historical  
Consciousness of Christianity  
Out of the souls of Western peoples.

Banks, bureaucracies staffed with busybodies,  
And other behemoth corporate interests:  
Grim and beastly powers governing the world.

Unnoticed by the compound lenses  
Of their prying insect eyes is a single  
Little flower in Troyes, the maiden  
Maura, the noble-born girl who poured out  
Her wealth on the poor, prayed and labored  
For long hours each day, and purified her soul  
And body with streams of tears. Dead at the age  
Of twenty-three in the world's reckoning,  
But alive before God for more than  
Eleven hundred by the Church's.

When the West comes to herself and asks St Maura  
To pray for her, then this staggering,  
Glittering megastructure, since its deep  
Supports are made of the brittle clay  
Of disordered human passions and deceit,  
Will crumble at the power of her Grace-filled words,  
Just as the temples and their idols once were felled  
By the prayers of holy martyrs who stood  
Bravely before them. And from all the holy  
Relics buried in the depths of earth  
Shall spring healing fountains to refresh  
The fainting Western folk, and the Lord  
Himself shall feed them His own Precious  
Body and Blood during the angelic  
Liturgy, granting them a blessed eternity.

Flee, then, Western man and Western maid,  
The mighty citadels of the proud,  
And spend yourselves in seeking the hidden flower  
Of Troyes, from whence your resurrection comes.

## [Table of Contents](#)

Walt Garlington was born and raised in that part of Dixieland called Louisiana. A chemical engineer by training, he has spent the last several years writing full-time. He has written essays and poems for *The Hayride*, *New English Review*, *The Tenth Amendment Center*, *The Abbeville Institute*, *Reckonin'*, *Katehon*, *Geopolitica*, and *USA Really*. He writes regularly at his own web site, [Confiteri: A Southern Perspective](#).

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