

And Night Must Fall
Juleigh Howard-Hobson

Sometimes the sun sets without much fanfare—
a gentle greying of the afternoon
as all grows slowly dark. Tonight, though, pinks
and reds compete with orange, purples share
the sky with greens that seem haphazard, strewn
among the clouds in technicolor inks
that don't blend so much as they lend distinct
brilliance to each other.

There is a glory to the blaze that is
the setting sun tonight: each hue succinct,
each shining. Does it know a human eye
is watching or does it matter to this
display that is not made for me at all
but made because it's made, and night must fall?

Juleigh Howard-Hobson edited an Arêtes Vakreste Boker award winning Norwegian anthology, *Undertow*. She served as assistant poetry editor at Able Muse and is a Million Writers Award "Notable Story" writer. Her work has earned an Alfred Award, an Anzac Award, as well as being a Predators and Editor's top ten finisher. She has been nominated for the Best of the Net, the Pushcart Prize and the Rhysling. A poem of hers has just been honored with an Orison Anthology nomination. She has five books published. Her most recent collection is *Our Otherworld* (The Red Salon Press, 2018).