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## The Light

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## *The Light*

There is an ease that comes with turning  
away  
from the light.  
Especially, when all your dearest stars  
loom above  
casting a ten-foot tall silhouette.  
Blowing you up  
with delusions of shimmering accomplish-  
ments  
not earned in sweat.

There is comfort sinking into the dark.  
A reclusive retreat  
from the warriors they bestow glitter upon  
and raise to become mascots of light.  
Exhausting.  
Instead, mimic the cattle,  
feed from the trough that many lay out  
just for you,  
and find bliss  
wallowing in your past.  
A quaint life.

However,  
if you are stricken with discontent,  
and the seductions from the mistresses of  
darkness cease  
to hold sway,  
double back.

For those who stay  
in the resort  
are those soon stricken by the prod and  
slammed on the skull with  
the hammer of regret.

Stray too far from the light  
and you must face the darkness  
that so falsely lifted you.  
Always face the opposition  
head first.  
Not to give in to the juvenile fantasy,  
and appease the façade that blocks  
maturation.

Deflate  
into the true size of your shadow.  
Cast away  
those familiar stars.  
Split from the reluctant self  
to embark on an enlightened path.  
The past view now inarguably false.  
Ascend.

SHANE HIPPS

