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## Holidays

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# Holidays

Mike Vanden Bosch

The July 3 evening sun smiled fire over the ocean,  
a burning head in the low sky blushing reds, golds,  
oranges, and lavenders across half of heaven,  
ravishing sun-seekers who sang the splendor.

Some chosen ones blessed west windows, paused,  
then pulled the shade and dreamt of Noah's rainbow.  
A weather-tamed woman bowed, sighed *Adonai*,  
but no news shark noticed her or the sun. No pollster

totaled the watchers that day. The lay-out artist  
studied her screen, fixing tomorrow's headline:  
*10,000 to See Fireworks Off Fisherman's Wharf!*  
I was there, one expecting to see fireworks off.

The crowd oohed and aahed at dime sparklers, then  
at the final fury—a thousand stars flashed and died.  
On July 5, our faces from our usual spaces did not  
see the sun shine on white sails drifting on the bay.