

POEM

---

## And now, for today

The breeze of thought,  
Blows through home,  
Vague, familiar,  
    On a ledge over the ocean,  
Beating waves,  
    And twisting pirogues,  
Oh to be there and feel taunting life.  
Or dappled sun on fields of grass,  
Should I recline,  
    Stretch my back,  
Wait till flowers close,  
Catch the whisper,  
    Stay, just here,  
In the quieting room?

The starry beckon,  
    My name,  
That I cannot recall,  
A vast, dark space,  
    With twinkling, grinning,  
Promise,  
    Of family past.  
Or I could bury my soles,  
    In dunes,  
Flop by the clock,  
    In time,  
For library musk,  
And fireflies.

The grand old dance,  
The weaving steps,  
Was it step-step step, or  
    One, two, three?  
Under crystal lights,  
Maybe I'll twirl the floor again,  
    Feet light as I pass and reach,  
For canapes.  
Or perhaps I'll stay,  
    Under blanket warmth,  
    Carpet underfoot,  
And stop, just stop,  
    The choices, caged,  
    That once resounded,  
Now that all is quieting.

### Rajendra Shepherd

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