

Sun-Daze*

“Electric currents in the Sun generate a magnetic field that is carried out through the solar system by the solar wind—a stream of electrically charged gas blowing outward from the Sun in all directions.”

In the early morning, we stepped outside our tent,
rising with the emerging insolation.
Our souls felt refreshed, though our bodies were stiff
and our joints crunched as we stretched.

“The Sun’s core is about 27 million degrees Fahrenheit (15 million degrees Celsius).”

The girl stood sweating in the radiance of the summer sun,
the soles of her feet nearly sizzled on the black asphalt.
As the skin on her scrawny arms slowly cooked, she wondered
whether or not the sun knew how hot it was.

“The Sun’s visible surface sometimes has dark sunspots, which are areas of intense magnetic activity that can lead to solar explosions.”

Two young folks parted ways on the sidewalk
anything but peacefully, with shouted words
and stomping feet and angry brows.
They were no longer starstruck, at least not with each other.

“Stars with extremely large mass undergo violent pulsations before they die, shaking off a giant gas shell. This can be powered by a process called the pair instability, which has been a topic of speculation for physicists for the last 50 years.”

He watched and perceived that her soul was leaving her body.
He knew now it would be free, unconstrained by flesh
or the rulings of those in power. The son set her corpse below
the horizon, as the last of daylight flickered away.

“Without the Sun’s intense energy, there would be no life on Earth.”

A rosy boa basked on a rock shelf in the center of a sun beam,
reveling in the radiation of warmth flowing through its veins.
A rat scurried by, and the balmy late spring was its saving grace,
as the boa decided that dinner could wait.

“Though it is special to us, there are billions of stars like our Sun scattered across the Milky Way galaxy.”

She was his sunshine, his only one.
He loved her dearly and she never knew it.
But like the sun, she could not make him happy
On days when skies were gray.

“There is evidence that some animals can navigate using celestial cues, such as the position of the Sun. Since the Sun apparently moves in the sky, navigation by this means also requires an internal clock. Many animals depend on such a clock to maintain their circadian rhythm.”

The whole hive hummed energetically
as worker bees danced under the light of the sun,
telling one another where to find the best nectar.
Their wings sparkled and their eyes glittered, angelically.

“If the sun was a doorway, the earth would be the size of a nickel.”

The sun being big enough to power the earth
was sufficient reason for them to invent the panels.
But much of its energy is wasted, much of ours is wasted
and people seem too small to fix it.