

Should you choose to be moon
your heavenly glow of face
will draw a world of attention

some will fall in Love with you
some will howl their great displeasure

for we live in a world of lesser lights
where eyes have grown comfortable
with the mediocrity of dimness

should you choose to be moon
the brightness of your face will startle
those who stumble in the dark

your light will take getting used to

even as you offer a clearer vision
many will want to remain in caves
content to gnaw on bones left over
from the cannibalizing of souls

they will snarl at your conspicuous aura
and each will pick up stones to cast at you

they will find their own reasons to slay you
achieving expertise at finding cause
devoting all their energy to knocking your
promissory lantern from the sky

their limbs will grow fatigued
then bloodied
then fall off

this will not stop them
they will pick up stones with their
jagged teeth and spit them at you
they will kick their legs off trying to
catapult rocks up against your lamp
of illuminated witness

when they exhaust themselves
they will curse you who bring the light
even as they cough into fits of breathlessness

astonishingly many of these howling souls
may be your own family and friends

though they love you
they are bewildered by your light

you may feel betrayed and stung
but do not fret this hard stone
in your burlap bag of destiny

they have their own moon to reach
and be

for you that chance is now
be the moon
that dissuaded gem of light

should you choose to be moon
know that you will inspire a world's vast
and conflicted response

the moment will be an aperture for revelation
look through that foreboding **cleavage**
into the radiance and see what is true:

as moon
those who cast against you
can never reach you
the distance is too far

only those who fall in Love
into your light
can reach you

and this is why moon shines steady
and unaffected through the night.

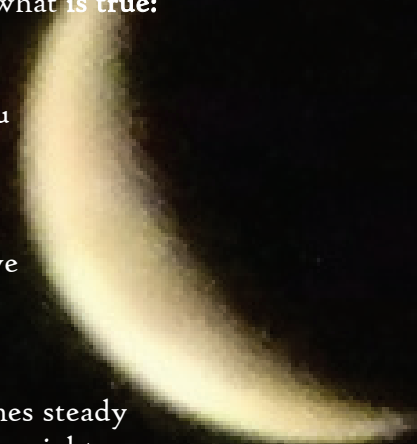


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December 13 draft
jaiyajohn.com