

This Life More Sweet

by J.D. Isip

The alternative:

Ending in the bottle,
ending just before the ending
and forgetting
the number of drinks, the number of years,
the point
and washing away your shadow.

The alternative:

Melting away in a moment
when just a little resilience, even a step or two
away from the flame, away from the moment
might have saved us all
the trouble of scraping you up
from the bottom of our cares.

There are endings all around,
pacing the sidewalks and malls without a shadow
or a thought as to
where they might have gone.

And there are moments
who hunt us like oxygen
and crave to consume not only us
but every molecule
we connected to.

And the alternative:
endure.