



2024

7th ANNUAL
**POEM
TOWN
BRADFORD**

ALIEN

THEY CAME TO ME IN THE NIGHT.
LARGE EYES,
OPEN HANDS.
TECHNOLOGY THAT BOTH TORE AND GAVE.
THEY TOOK ME FROM THE DRUNKEN DAZE.
THEY TOOK ME OFF THE LONELY STREET.
THEY TOOK ME FROM THE DARK TO
BRIGHTEST LIGHT.
THEY TOOK ME SOMEWHERE FATHOMLESS.
THEY BROKE ME OPEN LIKE A PENNY JAR,
THEY TREATED IT AS DIAMOND.

I HAVE A FAMILY NOW.
I HAVE BIRTHED SO MANY.
THEY HAVE FORMS AS HARD AS SCALE,
LIQUID AS MERCURY,
COVERED IN SOFTEST DOWN,
FEATHER AND FUR.
WE SPEND MANY NIGHTS TOGETHER,
BECAUSE THEY ALWAYS COME BACK TO
ME, YOU SEE.
DON'T YOU SEE?
THEY HEAR MY CALL AND THEY LISTEN.
THEY DO NOT NEED ME TO TELL THEM
LIES OF FAR OFF WORLDS
OR LOVE IN NAME ONLY.
THEY HAVE HAD IT ALL
AND THEY CHOSE ME.
THEY HEARD ME.
ME.

N. L. Hattam

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Chester, VT

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