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Painted With Wonder

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Painted With Wonder

by Anne Byrnes

An egg-shell sky
glows luminescent.
Vermilion brushes are
layering cobalt blue, amber,
and a purple
like bruised plums along the horizon.

As a nocturnal lassitude
steals upon us,
the embers of night
and webbed lightning
dance,
throwing splinters of light
as thunder rolls
like a cannon.

“One, two, three...,”
you count, large blue eyes
like non-day’s done
turned toward me;
yet from your upper lip
along the ridge-line
of your cheek,
soft as ripened peaches,
I wipe salty water
as shadows of cumulous clouds—
wind whipping them
into a frenzy—
click across your small face,
painted with wonder.