

Light Fall
Steven Deutsch

We are fine,
I suppose,
although winter has settled

in like an unwelcome
house guest,
who natters away

all day and night
about the summers
he once knew

as a child.
We live in the sway
of a great graying—

our world assuming
the colorlessness
we might find

on a planet
far from the sun.
We are fine, I suppose,

though we fight
against our estrangement
from this unwelcoming world.

We've been told
the Sun is backtracking
and we are accumulating

minutes of daylight
as a child might
gather pennies

in a piggy bank,
waiting for that day
in the unfathomable future

when we might
uncork it
and free the light.

Steve Deutsch lives in State College, PA. Some of his recent publications have or will appear in *Boston Literary Magazine*, *Rat's Ass Review*, *RavensPerch*, *MacQueen's*, *8 Poems*, *Louisiana Lit*, *Burningword Literary Journal*, *Third Wednesday*, and the *Muddy River Poetry Review*. He was nominated for Pushcart Prizes in 2017 and 2018. His chapbook, "Perhaps You Can," was published in 2019 by Kelsay Press. His full length book, *Persistence of Memory* was just published by Kelsay.