

# APHORISMS THROWN INTO THE EYE OF THE BLIZZARD

poem by Tamara Raidt



Image: "Here I Go" by Elizabeth Hlookoff. "Aphorisms Thrown into the Eye of the Blizzard" was written by Tamara Raidt for *Rattle's* Ekphrastic Challenge, July 2023, and selected as the Editor's Choice.

1. A girl walks into a blizzard of waltzing lights.  
The other end of the tunnel is not as near as you think.
2. If you stare at the sun you'll see a Cyclops face.  
*Ulysses* and *Nobody* are the same person.
3. A girl doesn't need to introduce herself to strangers.  
Men often forget to ask for permission.
4. A girl disappeared next door and was never found again.  
That is not true. She was found in a park.
5. She was found dead in a park behind buzzing bushes.  
Words and their order matter.
6. At mass the priest made everyone stand up and pray.  
Her coffin smelled like cheap wood.
7. Someone told me she now lives in the sky.  
I do not believe they got it right.
8. So *Ulysses* said *Nobody* with the confidence of a lying man.  
And the witnesses saw nobody, they saw nobody in a park.
9. I'm almost sure where she lives now.  
Please let it not be behind baseboards of sprung floors.
10. The sun is as round as bellies can get.  
There are as many stars as versions of what happened.
11. One version is my favorite and it goes like this:  
A girl walks into a blizzard of waltzing lights.