



Photo by Henna Shah



**Artwork by Jimmy Battianis**

# Dusk

The peaceful air settles around me  
Little animals scurrying to return home  
Birds sing in their nests  
As the colors in the sky begin to deepen  
The clouds become their different pinks and oranges  
Consuming the sky like a blanket covering us for protection  
Music plays in the background  
Families sit around dinner tables  
Talking about their day  
Their adventures  
Their stories  
Laughing together, and enjoying each other.  
Lights begin to flick on allowing the houses to eliminate yellows through its eyes.  
The clicks of locks roam the neighborhood  
Signalling that today is done.  
The pink clouds turn dark as stars replace them with vibrant lights shining down.  
The stars, creating stories to lull us to sleep.

Megan Lamb

# Sunrise

6:44

Shadows fell long across  
The wall opposite windows so vacant,  
Rendering kaleidoscopic shapes in muted, monotonous grey.

The cocoon of sleep worn sheets  
Encased my body in a sickening warmth,  
And the pillow pressed against my cheek  
Was no longer cool.

Tick.  
Tick.  
Tick.

The passage of time seemed nothing more than a  
Mechanical illusion.

6:45

I cast off the lines  
And their fiery embrace,  
Detaching myself from the umbilical cord  
Which fed my mind with the nonsense of dreams.

I moved slowly,  
Carefully,  
Trying not to wake the moaning spirit  
Which dwelled neath the floorboards  
Which separated my feet and  
The cold front stoop.

6:47

The garish light of day  
Enflamed the skies with shades of  
Pink and orange,  
Only broken by clouds  
The color of the fading  
Blue night.

Matthew VanAlstyne



Photos by Kelsie Murphy





Artwork by Emily Miller