

Journey To Light

(Editor's Note: The following poem, JOURNEY TO LIGHT, is being published today with the kind permission of Rev. Oliver Everette, Poet Laureate of Alaska, and pastor of the Fairbanks Evangelical Lutheran Church (ALC) at 1012 Cowles Street here in Fairbanks.

Rev. Everette has published a book of poetry entitled GOD HAS BEEN NORTHWARD ALWAYS and the book is available at Adler's Book Store in Fairbanks, Book Cache in Anchorage, and Baranof Gift Shop in Juneau.)

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The forward edge of our saucer is
glowing

and the sparks are flying
as we skim onward on our daily
journey.

The waves leap up and around us
and fall behind us
in little pink islands.

The whitecaps are diminishing.

Like a red fjord
a ray has pierced our planet
and the lesser waves,
in pinks and crimsons,
lap at our edges
in the full tide that spreads
along our smooth edges.

But the tide yellows and ages
and begins its returnings,
running before us
in the blues slates and purples
it has garnered from its wide in-
surgings.

Little pools with chiffon edges
are shrinking, and the slate tide
turns the pink islands under.
A pillar of smoke from our saucer
has climbed upward;
it bends in a low arc
it is creeping over the changing
billows.

But now the sky is changing,
and only the brush fires are burning
along the fjord fringes
as we plunge deeper
into the gray oceans.
Only the northern blackness now
has crimson trimmings.

Bubbles explode in the tide
and drift off in fragments.
Shooting white sparks
are into lost forever.
I spin on: in a dark saucer
with pink and black edges.

—OLIVER EVERETTE