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## Nights' Lights

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## Nights' Lights

### Cover Page Footnote

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# NIGHTS' LIGHT

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*poetry by*

DEACON TOM JEWELL

Like some misplaced celestial ornament  
whose ever strengthening light creeps up from the horizon  
as it slowly fills the eastern, winter sky -  
the moon rises.

Sneaking in and out of the swift-moving nighttime clouds -  
clouds that dash across the eerie vista  
like the hare bent on winning some preconceived race -  
The giant orb, now three quarters full  
meanders like the fabled tortoise -  
purposeful; deliberate.  
Knowing steadiness always brings victory.

Growing in intensity; light filling the sky one moment  
lying dormant the next -  
as if the bear resting deep within awaiting the call to wake.  
Then, fullness of light again  
it illuminates the homes of those unaware of its silent journey  
washing over both saint and sinner  
hidden within each dwelling  
as it moves toward dawn and its own vanquishing.

Lighting the way  
for determined travelers scurrying from points near and far.  
Giving those who watch a sense that all is still right with the world.

Performing an oft-rehearsed dance,  
this astral portent issues a call to any who would heed,  
"Fear not the night  
for it is but a doorway to the new day."