Beacon of ?

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Cover Page Footnote

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**Distractions**  
-Kelly Malinovsky

In the morning when  
I really should wake  
I really don’t.  
I hear the shower calling  
but not my buzzing alarm clock.  
My roommate opens the curtain,  
letting the bright sunlight into  
our dark room, which pulls me out of  
my warm bed that once helped me sleep.  
The chill of the room wakes me  
out of my trance.

In the afternoon when  
I really should work  
I wait until after I eat  
my au gratin potatoes and  
the nameless main course.  
Then, I finally get started with  
yesterday’s worries and today’s chores.  
I sometimes pause and look out  
my window to treasure  
the more peaceful things—  
the blanket of new fallen snow,  
the clear blue sky, but yet  
not so clear because of wispy clouds  
that stretch for miles.

My evening sets in quickly;  
I sometimes hardly notice it’s there.  
I rush to eat my dry meat  
and mushy vegetables  
forgetting to taste them,  
so I can finish today’s frustrations  
but tomorrow’s relief.  
The thunder in the hallway  
and the stench of burned popcorn  
divides my attention;  
my roommates chat of gossip and perfume  
while I gaze out my window and wonder  
how the snow falls so quietly-slowly—  
amidst the noisy rush of time.

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**Beacon of ?**  
-Kevin J. White

Like a beacon of light  
is the utter blackness of night

The one source that you continually move towards  
despite your bruised and battered body that is weary from the journey

You move you trip and fall  
the branches continually lash out  
as if trying to stop you from seeing the light

Echoes of Emerson and Kipling resound through my head  
as if I were on a canyon

Sometimes I pause and ponder  
I wonder words of wisdom  
Do they Transcend?

To all, To some, To a few, To none  
or does it all mean something  
and nothing?

So many unknowns have spoken  
words of wisdom, the famous  
those who are anonymous  
Those who spoke with authority  
Those who spoke with fear  
All in all they are there

But the question is  
are you willing to hear?