

Winter by patrick dennis riley 2022

inexplicable threads of elusive thought
silently stream torn shreds of autumn's
shadows into translucent shapes, twisted
at times by bizarre slices of brilliant blue
sardonic structures hidden within complex
organized droplets that sporadically shift
from haze to ice cold crystallized winter.

weak angry windjammer sir francis drake
canvasbacks subvocalize agonizing pleas
for sustenance, blindly navigating through
rivers of blizzards seeking leeward shelter,
previously diving for wild celery, under-
water grass roots, snails and insects at the
sad trickle which once was chesapeake.

ancient twin steel spans hidden within bergs,
snow, and debris west and east, with only the
highest suspensions vaguely visible slumping
awkwardly southward, one a reflection of the
other, continue to connect rural eastern shore
isolation with urban western shore desolation
during recent, imminent end of life glaciation.