**The Radiance You Seek**

**Shavawn M. Berry**

You are a cobalt moth’s wings,

Your beating heart,

Rustling in our chests

You are wild lilacs in blushing bloom,

Speckles of sunlight, touching

The bright air with your fragrance

You are sandalwood stinging our eyes,

And clouds of feather-blue smoke

Awakening our senses

You are a seeded field

Filled with the carbon of dead stars

Dropping to earth

You are the bones of white aspens

Now fallen on the forest’s floor

You are a darkling angel

Whose husky voice dreams

This world into being

What would any of us be, without you?

You snake through

Our blood lines,

Leaving us inebriated with joy

Even in grief you are there,

Counting the grace of each hour,

Filling us with what it means

To be completely alive