

Gary Dop

A Nebraska Night

The dog-eared sun
sinks behind the red willow,
disappears with the clouds
turning under
like prairie dogs
into invisible holes.

The cattle chew
the trampled grass
in the leftover
light and do not see
an early star bleed
down and across the still
weak slate.

The silent burst
falls bright
through a prairie
hospital window
on the hungry eye
of a newborn
who hasn't yet
slept or been
given a name.

Gary Dop lives in Minneapolis MN with his wife and three amazing daughters. Dop's poems have appeared or are forthcoming in *New Letters*, *North American Review*, *Agni*, *Rattle*, *Poetry Northwest*, *New York Quarterly* and the *American Life in Poetry* syndicated newspaper column. A recent graduate of the University of Nebraska MFA program, Dop curates the Taproot Reading Series in Minneapolis Elliot Park Neighborhood, where he moonlights as a professor, playwright, and comic.