

## Michael T. Young

### Clearing the Air

People devoured the stars  
with their wishing.

In their houses, they wiped  
their mouths and slept.

I wandered the empty diorama.  
Darkness coursed like a river

through trees. Old wounds  
were swaddled in owl wings.

A pulse in the leaves revived,  
and on a small hill, by a well,

there was a grassy plateau  
where I could finally tell my story.

**Michael T. Young's** fourth collection, *The Beautiful Moment of Being Lost*, was published by Poets Wear Prada. His chapbook, *Living in the Counterpoint*, received the 2014 Jean Pedrick Award. Young received a Fellowship from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts and the Chaffin Poetry Award. His work has appeared or is forthcoming in numerous journals including *Cimarron Review*, *The Cortland Review*, *Edison Literary Review*, and *The Potomac Review*. Young's work is also in the anthologies *Phoenix Rising*, *Chance of a Ghost* and *Rabbit Ears: TV Poems*. He lives with my wife, children, and cats in Jersey City, New Jersey.