

Revelations on the Living Room Couch

Josephina Wieczorek-Bettendorf

I left my kitchen this morning
With a warm coffee cup in my hand.
I used to watch the news on my
Six-inch phone screen,
But I stopped when I stopped knowing who to believe.
There's a textbook on the wooden coffee table,
Bunny-eared from my reading last night.
The woman who wrote it has an eight-year degree,
And she tells me what's wrong and what's right.
I used to believe in that too.

Now I measure wisdom in
Daylight
Seeping through the living room blinds,
Because Right is the grey cat,
Enveloped in gold,
Who sleeps undisturbed by my side.
Now knowledge is measured in knowing
That Wrong is being certain I'm not,
And Truth is the fact that
The sun rose this morning

Without caring if I saw it or not.

Without caring if I wrote down the time
Or made it some theory of mine.
The sun rises whether rising
Can be used for my life's theme
Or my habit of philosophizing
And making poetry of things
That are greater than me—

& Right is,
& Wrong is,
& Truth is greater
Than me.

Josephina Wieczorek-Bettendorf is a junior at the University of North Dakota, where she's studying English with certificates in writing, editing, and publishing as well as classical studies. She plans to pursue a PhD and become a college English professor. Josephina enjoys writing as a means of illustrating personal memories and creating stories that will make a lasting impact on others. When she isn't writing, she enjoys reading, watching movies, and spending time with her husband, Jonah, and her two cats, Sebastian and Arwen.