

First day of creation

by [Sarah Klassen](#) in the [February 4, 2015](#) issue

Let there be light! A flash, a bolt, a brilliant blaze  
that puts the kibosh on chaos. Let light shine on width, breadth,  
depth, a dazzle to illuminate all matter everywhere. Let it glint  
gloriously off ocean wave, sea swell, a brooklet's little ripples.

Let fish rejoice in it fantastically, the fur of fox, cat, cougar,  
coyote be haloed. Let light's hot pulse pull prairie grass, kinnikinnik  
up, up to verdant growth, turn grain from green to gold.  
In every garden everywhere let peonies, nasturtiums and

preposterous begonias unfold. Let every butterfly, bat, bird  
bathe in radiance. Let it pour mornings into breakfast bowls,  
fill empty cups to overflowing. At evening let light's long plumes  
linger: violet and vivid on every atom of creation.

When darkness closes in, shrouding the valley floor,  
let sky be spangled still, lit with the glow of meteors,  
the murky milky way, the white hot stars. O Light of life,  
Light of the wobbling world: your splendor does not tarnish,

will not be overcome by random avalanche,  
smart missile, guns, flood, smoke of forest fire.  
Your warmth will melt the iron grip of fear.  
A stone-cold guarded grave can never hold you.