

# Speck

By Glenn Currier

I open the big glossy book  
full of beautiful illustrations  
galaxies, nebulae, moons and stars  
cross into my view  
as I travel its pages  
I'm awe-struck.

In the black background  
clusters of color and light  
in this page-turning cosmic flight  
humble me  
a tiny speck  
in the expanding universe.

Dark matter  
dark energy  
dot this inner space  
wasted moments  
in scattered remnants  
undetectable by astronomy  
or particle physics  
in this collapsing sun.

Thank God for the stars  
in my universe  
who need no telescope  
or cosmic observatory  
to enter the inner space  
to trace and find the heart  
and grace  
in this still expanding speck.

*Author's Note: Written after again paging through a wonderful book I got several years ago: Voyage Across the Cosmos, A Journey to the Edge of Space and Time by Giles Sparrow. Also after watching an episode of Nova on PBS entitled A Black Hole Universe. Finally, I reflect on my own insignificance in the expanding universe.*

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