Dark Impactor

By Ben Gunsberg

Ben Gunsberg is an Associate Professor of English at Utah State University. His poems appear in numerous literary magazines, including *DIAGRAM*, *Tupelo Quarterly*, and *The South Carolina Review*. He is the author of two poetry collections, *Rhapsodies with Portraits* and *Welcome*, *Dangerous Life*.

Dark Impactor

Under normal conditions our solar system binds, but a string of holes suggests dense shells pierced the Milky Way. Light refuses to mark \bigcirc these scars so new to telescopes and physicists. They haven't yet been named by lyricists nor compared to wailing mouths. One reminds me of a wreath where buds refuse to grow. Life refuses to swell like steam from its warm bowl. A seam between \bigcirc each hole reminds me of caution tape, like the hem of a dress extracted from glass (I cannot describe the aftermath). What happens \bigcirc when bodies collide in space? How few hide in a narrow hallway? How many in a closet? If "A" lies outside and "B" lies on the floor, \bigcirc how many targets? The answer key waits on the final page, where we learn what happens to our young, our heavens.