

ROBERT KING

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Closing the Book

After the painful blue of yesterday's  
bright November sky we are pinned down  
  
today by the heavy weight of nothing  
but clouds, light as hopeful prayers, heavy  
  
as prayers unheard. We are brought down to where  
we simply are, although we deny it,  
  
not the world rolling inside its sensuous  
atmosphere but the bottom of the sky  
  
while above us something accumulates,  
accumulates, though lovers may savor  
  
such coziness, love not able to see  
farther than we live, our backyards the world,  
  
the world beyond impossible to think.  
So it is today as it was when some  
  
medieval philosopher shut his book,  
surrendered the attempt at thought and sat  
  
back, settling in his chair, surrounded by  
that other weather, narrowed, and human.



## ABOUT ROBERT KING

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Robert King's first book, *Old Man Laughing* (Ghost Road Press), was a finalist for the 2008 Colorado Book Award in Poetry, and his second, *Some of These Days*, was recently published by Conundrum Press. He won the Grayson Books Chapbook Competition with *Rodin & Co.* He lives in Greeley, Colorado, where he directs the website [www.ColoradoPoetsCenter.org](http://www.ColoradoPoetsCenter.org).

