

NELS HANSON

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A Book

With your thumb set pages  
rippling, so pictures move  
as in a movie, no words, no  
story, just the sky made of

many skies, diary of your  
life. The days are blue or  
gray, or dappled, sapphire  
and cirrus, cumulus, now

purple thunderhead, tall  
funnel cloud dissolving  
to that clearest autumn.  
Wait for the occasional

hawk, geese in a wide V  
aiming north, then south,  
jet's contrail blurring as  
it drifts. And in between?

Nights of stars and moon  
or snow, lightning etching  
veins across the darkness,  
flicker, dim as sun returns.

Sky watched each moment  
and spoke little, with wind,  
a stain of smoke, shooting  
meteor, the famous comet

we saw one December. All  
is saved in the sky's strange  
legend, the weather's slow  
years that were your own.

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

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Nels Hanson is the author of *The Blue Flower Case* (2016), *The Toy and Other Stories* (2016), and *Angels Awake* (2017). His work has appeared in *Rumble Fish Quarterly*, *Poetry Quarterly*, *The Ibis Head Review*, *Easy Street*, *Volney Road Review*, and elsewhere. He lives in San Luis Obispo, California.

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