

Moment: Broken Doll

Sometimes there is
a moment
with joy in it.
Laughter cracks fear
and soft, gentle knowing
melts an afternoon.

Sometimes,
just before horrific blasts
rip apart the sky,
someone knows love —
before survivors find
a doll in the rubble,
one leg missing.

Sometimes
in the instant between
our imposition of empire
on the sky
and the details of
life

joy breaks briefly out.

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Broken Doll, Iraq, 1998 © 1998 Alan Pogue

The people of the earth must make a peace too strong for leaders to resist.
Alan Pogue

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