View from a Sacramento hotel

As the new day awakens Luminous life blood begins to flow In the crisscrossing capillaries Of this urban organism, Each car carrying keyboard punching labor Not yet replaced by artificial intelligence, Going to temples filled with files and meeting rooms To discuss how they might increase profit margins For their corporate gods, Plantation owners whose field of concrete and wires Stretch to the unseen sky Hiding the horizon Hiding the mountains Hiding the forests and the plains Hiding the vast oceans Hiding space Hiding infinite possibilities Hiding the roads to freedom.

~ Rusty Alois

Originally published under the name Ernest Alois in Cholla Needles 49, 2021