

# THE ROOM AS WE SEE IT

poem by Andrew Payton

In the memory of the room  
we find a doorway  
to seeing the room as it is,  
as we had left it.

We find a doorway  
framed in revisions,  
as we had left it  
open to correction.

Framed in revisions  
we accept what shadows  
open to correction  
in the light show of sleep.

We accept the shadows  
outside the photograph.  
In the light show of sleep,  
sunlight is liberated.

Outside the photograph  
we dress the room in color.  
Sunlight is liberated  
through a window opened.

We dress the room in color,  
in the memory of the room.

Through a window opened  
to seeing the room as it is.



Image: “Unsatisfied External” by J. Stormer. “The Room as We See It” was written by Andrew Payton for *Rattle’s* Ekphrastic Challenge, December 2022, and selected as the Artist’s Choice.