

Remembering Shubham
by Nina Kirkegaard

Don't diminish him to a news headline
They pleaded, in between the tears

When our friend brought you along
June on MacDonnell

I wide-eyed your liquid purity
It drowned the bar in something better

While our encounters count on one hand
Each gifted me with new energy

Don't diminish him to a news headline
But I need to explain

How treacherous it feels
To know someone for four nights

Dispersed throughout the season
And for him to leave in the winter

Migrant bird, you flew in
Departed with haste

To never come back
Leaving so many of us distraught

This poem only came to life
Because it traded with you

I could've penned others
Eager to share them

With a poet friend
I never knew was next to me.