

## *Big World*

Ahead, the red

Lights glow-

All cars are halted now,

The bridge already up,

Awaiting its ship

To pass underneath.

I unbuckle,

Hop out of the car,

And head towards the action.

As I approach the edge of the boardwalk,

I spot a bright light

Coming towards the lit-up bridge.

It's the ship's pilothouse light,

Awake and ablaze,

Always on,

No matter what.

I stare at the oncoming

Ship light, realizing that

The bridge, all the way up,

Is prepared for a huge ship.

Then, the massive bow

Of the ship appears,

Coming into view,

The hum of the massive propeller

Fills the silence.

The bulk of the ship comes into view,

As I begin to realize how large

Our world really is.

Now, as the pilothouse of the ship

Passes underneath the bridge,

I head back to the car.

The bell of the bridge then

Takes its turn to fill the silence,

The bridge weight shifting,

Falling back into place.

A once-in-a-lifetime

Experience that is just

Another day in Duluth, MN.

-Michael Chelseth