

## Autumnals

by [Philip C. Kolin](#) in the [October 25, 2017](#) issue

Between retirement and bereavement  
come autumnals, the gilded leaves  
shekels in crisping-pins;  
puffed up sparrows on outmost branches;  
quests for surety.

But uncertainty is also a catechism—  
our brief expanse  
the willowy lights in late October  
flickering, blurring day  
from shadows descending.

But keep your reflections calm, see a pond  
become an opalesque canvas  
where fish create expanding circles,  
their fins sleeking like angel wings,  
a world yet to be.