

Advice for a young artist

by [Greg Huteson](#) in the [September 26, 2018](#) issue

If green curtains frame the window—  
forest green an instructor would call them—  
and if dust shades the glass,  
a foreground of light slate—  
if steel bars or aluminum  
block light to six of nine balconies  
across the back alley that's less  
than an alley—if the grid  
of yellow balconies is a lesson  
in perspective set for you—  
and if the variant (bottom left)  
of jacket, underwear, and white towel  
hung from a bamboo pole is intentional—  
Attend to the details, my son!—  
if the silver water tanks that disrupt  
the line of roof and sky are a reference  
to the One who waters from the heights,  
then take up your brush—hog bristles  
yet clean—and start to bless the Lord!