**[Darkness Starts](https://www.poetryfoundation.org/poems/56706/darkness-starts)**

BY [CHRISTIAN WIMAN](https://www.poetryfoundation.org/poets/christian-wiman)

A shadow in the shape of a house

slides out of a house

and loses its shape on the lawn.

Trees seek each other

as the wind within them dies.

Darkness starts inside of things

but keeps on going when the things are gone.

Barefoot careless in the farthest parts of the yard

children become their cries.