

A Dream Without Hunger

by Michael J. Rosen

Imagine the day—
change must start this way—

when no one falls asleep
hungry and no one rises hungry
with no more power to halt hunger
from aching in the body

or arguing with all the hopes
another morning boasts
than to halt the beats
of the heart, the tears of the eyes.

Imagine the day when hunger
is a parched land
and all of us wake up
beneath the tiles or tin

or straw or canvas or glass
or woven leaves—whatever
roof we've rested beneath—
to the steady quench of rain.

Yes, imagine the day
when all of us awaken
from hunger's nightmare
and breakfast is no dream.

Imagine such a day.
Must it be faraway?

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Note: a shortened version of this poem appears in *The Poetry Friday Anthology for Celebrations* by Sylvia Vardell and Janet Wong (PomeloBooks.com)