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Fire in the Sky

Jayna Burch

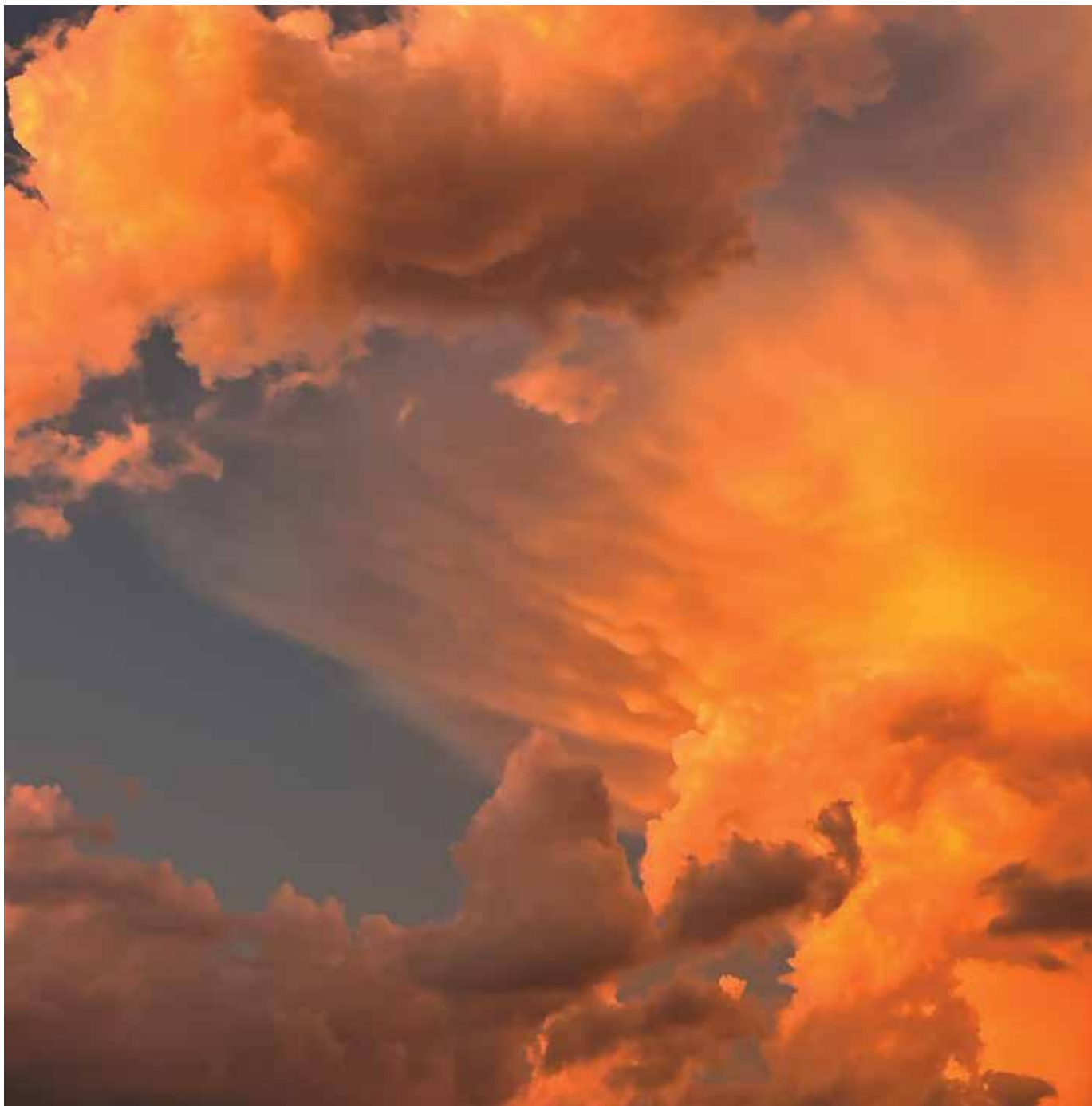
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Fire in the Sky

Jayna Burch



Adrift in Silence

Eric Ables

Kayla stared out the small round window, and into the diamond dotted void of space. Earth hung in the distance, bright and blue as her capsule floated away in a day's long journey to the moon. She knew in her head that she was traveling at incredible speeds but seeing the stars and Earth as they hung motionless in her window, it felt as if she were standing still.

She sighed as she wrapped a foil blanked over her suit to insulate it. There were only a few dim lights in the capsule, not for illumination, but only to mark important controls. Everything non-essential had been shut off ever since she had missed the rendezvous with the refueling station.

One little digit, that was all it had been to cause her to miss the dock and set her back days. She could have aborted her trip, returned to earth empty handed, instead she waited for her orbit to put her in a position to reach the moon on what fuel she had.

She took another look out the window, then tried to settle into sleep. She was not one to let discomfort get in the way of her ambitions.

She awoke with a start, taking several long, flailing moments to reorient herself. It was not her first time sleeping in weightlessness, but she could never get used to it. She scraped her arm on a button's protective cover, and clenched her teeth, her breath hissing through them. She became acutely aware of how every breath seemed to echo in the confines of her temporary home.