

# Forces

---

Volume 2023

Article 83

---

4-10-2023

## The Traffic Light

Sara Mendoza

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.collin.edu/forces>

---

### Recommended Citation

Mendoza, Sara (2023) "The Traffic Light," *Forces*: Vol. 2023, Article 83.

Available at: <https://digitalcommons.collin.edu/forces/vol2023/iss1/83>

This Poem is brought to you for free and open access by DigitalCommons@Collin. It has been accepted for inclusion in Forces by an authorized editor of DigitalCommons@Collin. For more information, please contact [mtomlin@collin.edu](mailto:mtomlin@collin.edu).

## The Traffic Light

Sara Mendoza

I am a god.

I look down upon my kingdom from my perch in the sky.  
Hundreds upon thousands of citizens look to me every day.

They celebrate me.

They pray to me.

They hate me.

My visage is praised when my green eminence allows  
The People passage through my dominion.

The People beg for my patience and my mercy  
when my aura glows a cautious yellow.

When my temper has flared and the redness of  
my eye shines upon The People, I am cursed.

Blamed for being nothing more than what I am.

I do not change my pattern.

I do not believe in chance.

Every day, at the same time, in the same place,

I imitate an ever-lasting cycle of Fall.

These colors are my words,

And my word is law.

Those who disobey me are punished.

They pay with their purses,

With their bodies,

Or with their souls.

The fault is not mine when your free will defies me.

I create order in a world of chaos and ruin.

And do you acknowledge my compassion?

I am a thankless god.



## The City at Sunset

Abrielle Shakh